

JANUARY, 1931

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**THE
CRISIS**

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

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WEST VIRGINIA

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BY C. H. WESLEY

●
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REVIEWS
EDITORIALS



DEEPENING DUSK
A REMARKABLE
STORY BY
EDITH M. DURHAM

●
COLORED FOLKS'
PREJUDICES
BY
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THE CRISIS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

W. E. B. DU BOIS, EDITOR

IRENE C. MALVAN, BUSINESS MANAGER

THE CRISIS was founded in 1910 and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is conducted by an Editorial Board, consisting of W. E. B. DuBois, Editor-in-chief, James Weldon Johnson, Walter White and Herbert J. Seligmann.

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FORECAST

Thank you very much for your letter of congratulation. Indeed, I should be very happy to write something for THE CRISIS.

SINCLAIR LEWIS

If you want me to attempt an article a bit later on, I'll be delighted. My best thanks for your thought of me.

H. L. MENCKEN

I suppose you might as well go at the question of religion.

I am going West for about two weeks. I will try to figure out something for you on my journey.

CLARENCE DARROW

If you can use an article after December first, I shall be glad to accept the honor to write for your great magazine.

(Bishop) ROBERT E. JONES

I appreciate the invitation to write something about the Negro in politics. I am very busy during the few days in advance of the opening of Congress but will try to get something to you before the end of the coming week.

ARTHUR CAPPER,
Senator from Kansas

I have talked the matter over with the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, and he has promised to contribute to your paper at his earliest convenience. We read its pages.

A. C. CHAKRAVARTY

Not only do I know THE CRISIS, but have long been an admirer of its purpose and achievements. I promise you that if leisure presents itself, I shall be only too glad to do something for you.

GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

The CRISIS is published monthly and copyrighted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 15 cents a copy, \$1.50 a year. Foreign subscriptions \$1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and

new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage and while THE CRISIS uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 3, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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"NEWS NOTES FROM OUR ADVERTISERS" W. 139th St. Branch, Y.M.C.A.

The request for employment is one of the largest unfulfilled needs of the Association. An appeal has been made to the membership to help in this direction by contacting every employer with whom they do business, or by getting in touch with the Association whenever they chance to see an opening in which a man may be placed. This is done with the hope that some of the many needy cases may be helped.

The Hunton School of Christian Education of the West 135th St. Branch Y.M.C.A. in New York, offers young people a splendid opportunity for observation of the facts of life; acquisition and reconciliation of conclusions to Christian ideals. University trained instructors head ten classes, the enrolled of which is about 100.

FROM THE 1930 NEW YORK ACADEMY SCRAP BOOK

The high spots of achievement during 1930 by the New York Academy of Business students were the fact that three students took the New York State Civil Service examination for Graphotype and Addressograph operators, and two of this number, the Misses Ethelyn Marrow of Summit, New Jersey, and Ila Thompson, of Bronx, N. Y., were appointed in the same month in the State Motor Vehicular Bureau. There are now in this Department alone, of the State Service, more than 70 colored girls as file clerks, stenographers, typists, Graphotype and Addressograph operators from the Academies. Other notable appointments of the New York Academy trained appointees are Miss Margaret Hatfield, of Brooklyn, N. Y., as file clerk, Miss Catherine deFreitas, of Plainfield, N. J., as file clerk, Miss Lillian Powell, of New York City, as clerk in the N. Y. State Insurance Fund.

KNOXVILLE COLLEGE NEWS

Knoxville College opened the school year 1930-31 with a total enrollment of approximately 360. In the college department there was a large increase with the enrollment figure reaching 293. Only the third and fourth years of the academy are offered this year and by action of the Board of Trustees at their semi-annual meeting November 10th the academy will be eliminated entirely next year. This means that all of Knoxville College's \$700,000 endowment, the physical plant, and other facilities will be devoted exclusively to undergraduate work of college rank leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science.

NEW DEPARTMENT CREATED

Work in Sociology and Economics has been established as a separate department in the college curriculum this year for the first time. Heretofore such courses were offered under the direction of the Department of History and Social Science. J. Herman Daves, who received his A.B. degree from Knoxville College in 1922, is the new head of the department. He received his master's degree in Sociology at the University of Buffalo in 1929.

WHITTAKER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

The Whittaker Memorial Hospital and Training School for Nurses was organized June 4, 1914 by the colored physicians of Newport News, Va. Two lots were donated by Mr. Benj. West on which a three story frame building was erected. An Annex consisting of nurses' dormitory, dining room, nurses' reception rooms, and diet kitchen was subsequently added. The Association was chartered as a charitable institution and except for a nominal fee charged patients, it is financed by popular subscriptions. The hospital can accommodate fifty patients, has an up-to-date laboratory and X-ray outfit and is a great asset to the community. It also offers training for nurses and accepts students with four years' high school training. The Training School is directed by a very efficient faculty of teachers consisting of doctors, dentists and registered nurses. The students affiliate for nine months of their course with St. Phillips Hospital, Richmond, which together with their home school, gives them the theory and the practice to pass the State Board with distinction.

In writing to any advertiser in this magazine you will confer a favor on the publishers by mentioning THE CRISIS.

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To-day

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THE CRISIS Recommends

for this month's reading

**Africa, Its Geography,
People and Products**
By W. E. B. DuBois

Black Manhattan
By JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

The American Negro
By THE AMERICAN ACADEMY

The Story of Haiti
By HARRIET GIBBS MARSHALL

Not Without Laughter
By LANGSTON HUGHES

**The Negro Peasant Turns
Cityward**
By LOUISE V. KENNEDY

As the Eagle Soars

“THE ruling of one race by another can only be justified from the Christian standpoint when the highest welfare of the subject is the constant aim of the Government, and when admission to an increasing share in the Government of the country is an objective steadfastly pursued. To this end equal opportunity and impartial justice must be assured . . . All communicants without distinction of race or color should have access in any church to the Holy Table of the Lord, and none should be excluded from worship in any church on account of color of race.”

THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE
OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

As the Crow Flies

The Emperor Otto of Austria is eighteen years of age with nowhere to reign.

Mr. T. F. Ryan died two years ago and left a little nest-egg of 121 million dollars. Today with no effort on his part and little on the part of his heirs, his fortune is worth 125 millions. Ain't stocks wonderful?

The British Imperial Conference on India is being held in a small Indian jail. Mahatma Gandhi is presiding. Prime Minister McDonald and Katherine Mayo are not present. They have been jailed in England for trying to make salt.

The way to disarm is to disarm and not to sit around talking about it or inventing new words to “implement” ships, gas, and cannon.

Are Abyssinians Negroes? If American Negroes are Negroes then all Abyssinians are Negroes. If Abyssinians are not Negroes there is scarcely a Negro in the United States.

If the unemployed could eat plans and promises they would be able to spend the winter on the Riviera.

When thieves fall out, honest men get an earfull. We learn now that unless the Eighteenth Amendment is en-

forced, the South will not be allowed further to nullify the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth, and that even the Sixteenth and Seventeenth will be put in jeopardy; which means that those who want us to stop drinking are perfectly willing to wink at slavery, peonage, disfranchisement, the abolition of the income tax, and the repudiation of woman suffrage. This is what we call exhilarating.

Nothing has so added to the gayety of nations as the de-bunking of our biggest and richest universities by Flexner. Conceive the cultural content of cooking, dancing and advertising being in question!

The sovereign people of the United States buy 20 thousand million dollars a year in goods for which they have nothing to pay. Installment buying they it call. Of course this has nothing to do with the current depression.

If Spain gets rid of a useless but ornamental king, what will they put in his place?

Most persons can not understand why the flood of exposure concerning gang-rule, graft and stealing in the United States arouses no widespread protest or public conscience. They will be enlightened if they remember that

American business, that triumphant expression of our civilization, is based fundamentally on graft, gang-rule and legalized theft.

When is a hero not a hero? When he is an Hungarian Jew who fought in the World War. This we have on the authority of Mr. Goemboes, War Minister of Hungary.

All that we ask is that lies and doubts expressed about Russia shall at least be internally consistent. A Russian confesses a crime which puts his own neck in the halter and this is explained by Western Europe on the theory that he has been bribed by his prospective executioners!

You can't keep a good man down. President Hoover, staggering groggily to his feet after several predictions of prosperity, asserts in his message that “There are many factors that give encouragement for the future.” This strikes us as the first wise word that the President has uttered in two years, and even this we think we have heard before.

Bishop Manning offered to read and explain Judge Lindsay's “Companionate Marriage” for the benefit of his youthful and immature clergy. It is unbelievable but true that the naughty rectors preferred to hear Lindsay.

The Adoration of the Magi



Drawn by Laura Wheeling Waring from the picture in the Museum of the Louvre, Paris, painted by Peter Paul Rubens.

West Virginia and the Negro

By WALTER S. HALLANAN

THE N. A. A. C. P.

TWENTY-ONE years ago the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was organized to win for the Negroes of this nation those rights—political, economic and social—which even civil war and reconstruction had been unable to secure for them.

In 1909, although almost half a century had elapsed since the Emancipation proclamation the American Negro was only a little nearer freedom than in the days when he was legally a slave. Lynchings were scandalously frequent; in many states the colored voter was systematically denied his rights at the polls; discrimination was reflected in the railroad coach, in the professions, in segregation ordinances, in labor unions, and in the courts.

Today the Association is in the twenty-first year of its existence. Having fought two decades for equal opportunity for the Negro, it realizes that great victories have been won, but much remains in the pursuance of the program before there can be a full attainment of its ideals.

The National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People is simply the latest expression of Negro culture, Negro racial consciousness and Negro self respect. Its struggle for Negro rights and equal opportunities is both defensive and offensive; it is limited to no one sphere; it embraces everything that legitimately stirs the soul of a race. It has safeguarded the constitutional status of twelve million citizens, and, in performing this task, it has accomplished more than any other agency in bringing to life the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. But, the Association has also been an important cultural influence and it finds Negro achievement in the Arts and Sciences higher today by far than in the period before its foundation.

The Association is essentially the creation of Negro leaders; it has now, as always, however, the cooperation and backing of many white citizens who serve as officers and who recognize in its aims and purposes a very excellent opportunity for genuine service in behalf of a race of people.

This Association stands for the citizenship rights of the Negro as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution is the fundamental law of our land and the protection of all human rights and liberties.

Mr. Hallanan is a member of the State Senate of West Virginia and Republican National Committeeman from that state. He is a member of the N. A. A. C. P. and his stand is in refreshing contrast to that of the leading Republican politicians of the United States.

The record of this Association in securing for the Negro those sacred rights which have been denied him is a most commendable one. The abridgement of the rights of any citizen weakens the fundamental principle of our American Democracy. Efforts to safe-guard these rights for the Negro on the part of this Association have only tended to make a purer democracy and a better America.

JUSTICE

UNDER the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the State of West Virginia, what can any citizen expect? In the first place, it is the right of every citizen to expect even justice. I am not unaware of atrocities which may occur to your minds in terms of treatment accorded to members of your race in various sections of this country, such as the barring of the Negro from the polls; terrorizing and driving Negroes from their homes; peonage, that un-American institution—lynching; the denial of the Negro youth the opportunity to secure an education; the nullification of the Thirteenth, the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States; and various schemes of disfranchisement. With these things taking place, it is evident that this Association holds not only an important place among Negroes but with white people, who believe in constitutional guaranties, as well. The key to the solution of most of these ills is justice. In an American sense, justice is broad, unrestricted and humanitarian.

What else may any citizen expect of his state or nation? It occurs to me that an equal opportunity to earn a living; to enjoy the fruits of one's labor; to secure an education, to participate in the community life; to share in government; to worship God in accordance with one's convictions; to have full protection under the law; these pursuits may be called a legitimate claim on the

part of any citizen. Such are your claims and, deprived of them, you would be less than men if you did not make an effort to secure them.

EDUCATION

THE inequalities in education to which members of your group have been subjected not only hurt you, but they weaken the fabric of our common country. The manipulation of Federal appropriations for education in such a way as to give one-fortieth of the appropriations for one-tenth of the population is a matter which should not only receive the attention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, but also the attention of all Americans who believe in justice and fair play. In addition, the research division of the National Education Association published in the May issue of the CRISIS of that Association the fact that the cost of public elementary, secondary and higher education in 1928 was \$2,448,633,566, of which \$45,000,000, or 1.8 per cent was spent on Negro schools. This figure includes expenditures in states that have a fair attitude towards the education of the Negro—such states as West Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Delaware and Missouri. It is reasonable to conclude that, leaving these states out, the expenditure for Negroes would be much less than 1.8 per cent of the total amount spent for education. This is an alarming situation when it is considered that the Negro must bear an equal responsibility with other citizens in the development of the nation. To illustrate: In Coahoma County, Mississippi, with a white population of 3,755, and a Negro population of 16,997, there was expended for whites \$200,000 and for the Negroes, \$40,000, or a per capita expenditure of \$53 for whites and \$1.53 for Negroes. With this small expenditure, we can understand why the school terms for Negroes in some communities range from forty days per year to a little more than 100 days in some of the more favorable localities.

In the realm of higher education, there are evidences of gross inequalities. In not one of the twenty southern states is opportunity provided by the state for professional education of Negroes. It might be added in addition that the subject of university training for Negroes has not yet been approached.

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THE BALLOT

THE right to vote in a Democracy is indisputable. The curtailment of the franchise of any citizen hurts the general cause of government. The curtailment of this right of a citizen deprives that citizen of an opportunity to participate in the affairs of the government. The ballot itself is not Democracy, but a tool in the workshop of Democracy. The Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments are practically nullified in certain sections of this country, and with this nullification goes abridgement of the prerogatives of the citizenship of your people. This means that they are unable to impress their will upon the community for any type of social betterment. This position involves constructive participation on the part of the citizens in their government, and in the absence of such participation, one might well expect barbarities and atrocities of the lowest order.

WEST VIRGINIA

WHAT is West Virginia's approach to the problems just started? This state was founded by those who believe in liberty and justice. Their loyalty to those principles gave birth to the State of West Virginia. The framers of our first Constitution had in mind the giving of an opportunity to every citizen of the state to prepare himself to enjoy liberty and to participate freely in the affairs of the government. Members of your race have had a part in the legislative branch of our government for almost forty years. It is the only State south of the Mason and Dixon Line belonging to that group commonly known as Southern states, wherein Negroes have an opportunity to assist in making laws under which they are governed. Not only are you represented in the legislative halls of the state, but members of your race hold positions as justices of the peace, where they come in closer contact with the rights of the common people of both races than do the judges of the other courts. The Constitution of this State guarantees that every person who is accused of crime or whose rights are in jeopardy may have his case decided by a jury of his peers. The Supreme Court of West Virginia has established the principle that to deprive a Negro of the right of sitting on the jury is a just cause for setting aside a verdict rendered unfavorable to him. It is the only one of the twenty states, except two already referred to, where Negroes are permitted to sit upon juries.

This, in a measure, represents West Virginia's approach to justice for her Negro citizens. I do not need to re-

mind you that Negro policemen protect the city and community at large and not the peoples of any one group. This represents participation in citizenship under the Constitution, I stand with you in an effort to make fully protective all over America the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

BLACK LABORERS

IN this day the matter of earning a living, of getting a job, is important. Unemployment is not now limited to any one state or country. Nor is it limited to any one race or group of people. In the history of this state opportunity has always been given the members of your race along the lines of work and employment. The coal industry alone has numbered among its employees 23,000 Negro workers. At the present time, thousands of the productive workers along other lines in this state are members of your race. With the coming of the slump in the coal industry, due to the serious overproduction of coal, there has not been a disproportionate curtailment of Negro workers in the coal industry. Here then is not only the opportunity for earning a living, but along with it goes an untrammelled opportunity for enjoying the fruits of one's labor.

As I see, the very attitude of the State of West Virginia with respect to her colored citizens places her on the progressive side of those forces which tend to advance the cause of Negro citizenship, and therefore is in sympathy with the objectives of your organization.

LYNCHING

IN recent months, a wave of lynching has spread over a portion of the country. This is sufficient to make every American bow his head in shame. West Virginia has already made its answer to those who would take the law in their own hand and attempt to mete out justice to an individual accused of crime. One of your race, sitting as a member of the State Legislature, introduced a bill making lynching a crime, and placing the responsibility for the prevention of lynching on the peace officers of the state. This law was passed by both branches of the Legislature with scarcely a dissenting vote.

SCHOOLS

WEST VIRGINIA holds an enviable position in the manner in which she provides for the education of all her citizens without discrimination under the law. When it was found

that small groups of Negro children, living in scattered communities, were being denied an opportunity to receive an elementary education, our State Legislature enacted a law making it mandatory on Boards of Education to provide for the instruction of such small groups. A few years ago the legislature of this state enacted a minimum salary law, in the operation of which it was found that in some districts Negro teachers were discriminated against in the setting of salaries. When this matter was brought to the attention of the legislature, (of which I had the honor of being a member), a bill was introduced by a member of your race, Hon. T. Edward Hill, and was passed by both branches of the legislature, making it unlawful to discriminate against teachers in Negro schools in the fixing of salaries. Again when it was brought to the attention of the legislature that West Virginia was not providing University training for Negroes, a law was passed providing for the tuition of Negro students in Universities outside of the state, thereby placing them on the same basis as white students at West Virginia University. Since the operation of this law, fifty-eight young men and women of the Negro race have had tuition paid in Universities both white and Negro outside of West Virginia.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

AS an additional approach to West Virginia's attitude toward the university training of her Negro citizens, the last legislature authorized the West Virginia State College to offer graduate and professional courses, thus laying the foundation for a Negro University on the banks of the Kanawha. This is the first time that any state south of the Mason and Dixon Line has indicated that university training is necessary for the Negro youth. It has been my pleasure as a member of the State Senate to sponsor the cause of West Virginia State College and Negro education in general. A few moments ago, I referred to the inequality of the distribution of Federal funds in the several states. I am pleased to state that I introduced Senate Joint Resolution, No. 15, in the last session of the State Legislature, which made the West Virginia University and the West Virginia State College beneficiaries of the monies coming to the State of West Virginia from the Capper-Ketcham Act. This Act on the part of the legislature was a recognition and an endorsement of the splendid service which the West Virginia State College is doing. I hope to live to see the day when this institution shall

(Will you please turn to page 34)

Deepening Dusk

A Story by EDITH MANUEL DURHAM

IF you were very bright, with silky hair instead of wool, pomaded and hot-combed dead straight, you had to be careful. You must never dare to laugh at the amusing fancies, bobbing so deliciously into your brain, else the grinning, frisking black girls, who found so much to giggle over, would freeze you out of the fun. They would get mad and accuse "Stuck on your color. Trying to be white." They would say you were laughing because they were black; they might even call you "White folk's nigger." Vivvie Benson had learned to be careful. She knew all this and thought it silly. White was nothing to be stuck on. Black wasn't funny.

Ma was black and wooly headed but didn't Vivvie love her? Love her? Why Ma was all the world! No one would dare to laugh at Ma. Out of nothing Ma made the prettiest clothes for Vivvie and twisted her hair into perfect curls; Ma kept the neatest house, had the earliest garden, hung out the whitest wash. Vivvie was proud of Ma, the strongest, smartest, best woman in the world. Vivvie loved her black.

There was Tim, so slick they called him "Shine." Vivvie never used that name though she loved it. "Shine" fitted Tim, fitted pat to his satin polished skin. Everything gleamed about Tim; his hair was not plastered like the rest of the boys', it was crisp live crinkles of blackness; his straight teeth flashed with glistening whiteness; he had eyes that sparkled, that danced when they looked at Vivvie, and changed to rolling fiery balls in a sea of white when other eyes danced at Vivvie.

No other girl so fair as Vivvie, no other boy so dark as Tim, yet Vivvie loved him, next to Ma. Girls younger than she had steady fellows but Ma said seventeen was much too early. Tim could not be her beau. He might only come now and again to sit and look at Vivvie while she chattered. Always Ma was close at hand. Kate Benson's eyes were keen for this only child. Tim often felt them, cutting under his skin.

This summer afternoon, in the spotless dining-room, Tim looked across the checkered cloth of the table, at the fragile blossom that was Vivvie, a creamy, tender bud in her cool green frock, tissue thin, still dainty and fresh after many launderings; Vivvie looked back at Tim, wholesome and strong,

In Two Parts. Part One

This is one of the most interesting stories that THE CRISIS has had the privilege of publishing. You cannot afford to miss reading it.

not minding his faded overalls and the tear in his chambray sleeves. She knew he would leave her for the heat of the foundry where he would sweat all night. For six years he had done the labor of a man. Vivvie was proud of the brawn of Tim.

Vivvie was retelling stories, the kind she delighted to read (the boy delighted in any tale that had her voice for the telling) of beautiful damsels, lovely princesses in distress and of gallant knights to the rescue. "Oh, Tim," she sighed, but happily, "if I might have lived back then and been a lovely damsel."

The boy answered the wish in a voice that had grown deep early and rumbled:

"If any fellow ever bothers you I'll knock the guts—" Tim bit the offending tongue into confusion for daring to spit out rough talk before Vivvie, "I mean the stuffin' out of him!" How else could he tell his princess he would die to be her knight? He had no words to speak his heart.

The girl flushed, in no other way would she let him know her ears had caught the ugly lapse, that she wanted him to knock the stuffings out of anyone who came between them. Vivvie loved the sparkles in his eyes, the glossed skin of his muscular arm, showing through the torn chambray sleeve, satin casing steel. It looked touchable, only girls did not touch boys nor let boys touch them. Ma said so. That was what made dancing wicked, touching. A girl might get bad, and there would be a baby, the most wicked thing that could happen, unless you were married. Tim's mother was not married. Vivvie could not believe it wicked for Tim to be born. Not Tim. The soft cheeks grew warm and dark with color.

Fascinated by the unusual play of color in the girl's face, the boy watched, breathless, till the questioning dark fire of his eyes drew the dreaming gray of Vivvie's; one grow-

ing second Tim held her gaze, then long lashes curled downward, veiling the glory in. Once only, in a lifetime has man a right to such a vision.

Her hand lay on the table against the red ground of the checked cloth, tiny, blossom like. Tim stretched his calloused, great, dark hand beside it, marveled at the contrast. Vivvie forgot what Ma had taught. Her hand crept over the little space between them. "Tim," she whispered, shy, sweet,

"Tim."
Slowly his palm closed over her fingers, tightened.

"Vivvie, oh Vivvie!" Shoulders inclined forward, chins tilted, over the table their lips met.

"Vivvie!" Another voice was calling. Like guilty sinners they started, grew rigid in their chairs. "Time this boy was leaving if he means to hold his job." Ma followed the voice into the room. She glanced from one to the other casually, then keenly as she saw something new in the two faces. Tim had grown ashy, Vivvie deeply pink.

Slowly Vivvie recovered her voice, "Yes, Ma," she answered, and rose to get his cap. She did not look up as she placed it in his hand, but Vivvie felt Tim looking at her, caressing her with his smile. She was glad he was going, she wanted to tell Ma all about it, that she loved him. Next to Ma!

Kate Benson stood, watching, waiting. "I want to talk to Tim a bit. You go in the kitchen, Vivvie, and see if the kettle's boiling." An excuse to be rid of her, the door closed between them by Ma's firm hand. Vivvie pushed her curls far back behind her ears. She had to hear. When she heard she could not see. Impatiently she alternated eager eye and ear at the keyhole. This was her affair, not even Ma could shut her out of it.

Tim was twisting from toe to toe, awkward beneath Kate Benson's determined gaze.

"I couldn't speak before the child," Ma was saying, "but you are near grown and will understand. You like my baby, Tim?" The voice was soft and kind, but some undertone left Vivvie afraid. Her heart stopped for the boy's reply.

"Awf'ly," proud and ashamed was Tim, "worse than likin'," he added boldly.

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but you will get over it before you die, boy. I'm asking you now, don't come here any more." What ailed Ma, was she crazy? Why Tim had to come there, how else were they to see each other. "I want you and Vivvie not to see each other."

The applied eye saw Tim, writhing in wordless confusion. Vivvie longed to help him talk up to Ma, Ma who was spoiling every thing. "Why, Mis' Benson, why, I been comin'." No use looking, she had to hear.

"When Vivvie was a little girl; but things seem to be changing. I've been watching you cast sheepeyes at my little girl lately. I ain't going to have you fooling with her."

Tim stuttered miserably, "What you mean, Mis' Benson?"

"You are old enough, twenty, a'int you? You understand me well enough. There's to be no fooling with my Vivvie!"

Tim was not stuttering now. Vivvie's heart leaped, he was angry, had found his voice at this sacrilege. He understood Ma now. "That's awful, Mis' Benson. Why Vivvie is good. She's good, I tell you. I wouldn't try. I want her always good. It's not fair, what you're thinkin'. Not Vivvie." Tim was talking up.

"And you don't get a chance. I ought to know my girl is good without your telling. I mean her to stay that way till she finds some man fitting to marry her. You never could."

"Why?" he dared. No answer, so he found his own. "You mean on account of Ma."

Vivvie saw the ashy agony in Tim's young face. Her heart was wrenched for him, and strangely for his mother. Terrible to have her son ashamed of her. Never, never, vowed the peeking Vivvie, shall child of mine be shamed for me. But listen, Tim had something to say for her.

"Ma ain't really bad, folks are just down on her because she got the worst of it. Do you s'pose I could treat Vivvie like that—, I can't call him the right name before you, Mis' Benson, like that thing treated Ma?" That was it, it was his father he was ashamed of. Vivvie was glad; it was unthinkable having to be ashamed of one's mother.

"I guess Vivvie is safer with me, on account of that, than some fellows with fathers. I wouldn't treat the worst girl like that, I couldn't fool Vivvie. She's good. She—, she's a queen to me." Oh, never could Vivvie have resisted that pleading voice, "please, Mis' Benson, let me come see her like always. I won't talk no love to her. I won't make up to her, till you say she's old enough. I—I won't even touch her hand. I gotta come,



VIVVIE

Mis' Benson, I gotta."

Ma could deny him. "No, Tim."

"But, Mis' Benson, you gotta be fair. How could I help my father? I ain't blamin' my mother none, not for nobody. I ain't bad."

Ma's voice was kinder, though still there was rock behind it. "I am sorry, Tim. I'm not thinking you worse than the others. You may be better. Only I got higher plans for Vivvie. None of them are going to hang around her. There's lots think she is easy falling, but I mean to show all these folks how to raise a lady, even though her daddy was a white man."

Vivvie saw and heard no more. That last sentence had left her sick and sore with a great disgust. She did not hear when Tim was eased onto the porch and the door shut firmly behind him, alone in the dusk, but not in his misery. Vivvie was suffering, a pain she had never known before,—shame! Shame. Her father a white man! She knew now why the black girls had shut her out, they thought she was trying to be white. Only the trashiest white men and the trashiest colored women—she tried to stop the trembling of her hands, they

were hot, her face was burning with shame. Ma couldn't be wrong. She never had been. She stood there, burning and shaking, waiting for Ma, for Ma who must set things right.

Kate Benson started in surprise at the stern eyed Vivvie waiting in the little kitchen for her, pouncing on her accusingly:

"I heard you, Ma, I heard you. I must know why you did it. I must."

The mother stared, never before had the child been rude. A good thing she had dismissed that boy, her baby was getting serious about him. They ripen so early, these children of the sun. Kate Benson hoped she had not waited overlong. Her attempt at amused laughter was shaky, "Why? Because you are only a baby, honey, just Ma's baby yet, sweethearting is for women, Vivvie. Ma has to guard you from the beaus yet awhile."

"Oh that!" Vivvie waved Kate's words aside, "I am not talking about Tim. It's you I am asking about, about you and my father. You have to tell, Ma."

What under heaven ailed the child? "Tell you what, girl?" What was she bawling about? "What is there

to tell about your Pa? What is wrong? Answer me, Vivvie." But Vivvie was crying, crying. The mother's heart was shot with fear, the big fear that dims all others for the mothers of girls. If she had not watched close enough? If she had not been in time? Nothing like that could happen to her baby! "Tell me what ails you, girl," she bade, her voice made sharp with pain. "Answer, you hear me, mind your Ma."

"You never told me my father was a—a," (whisper,) "a white man."

Relief, perplexity, it was not the great fear any longer. "What need? You ought to remember your Pa, and there hangs his picture in the room," her eyes rested on Vivvie, unbelievably, "you mean you thought all this time your Pa was colored?"

"I thought he was light complected like I am."

The dark woman gazed at the creamy, crimson flushed face before her, and her own eyes filled with determined light, "He was, like you; but he was a white man, and you are white, too, if your Ma is black."

"I am not! I won't have him for a father; I won't have you for—" the child stopped, frightened by her own vehemence. Almost she had disowned Ma. She still loved Ma. Tim loved his mother, bad as she was.

"Now listen, girl. You are not old enough yet awhile to call your Ma to account, and it strikes me you're a bit behind hand choosing your Pa and Ma. Everybody always knew who your Pa was, and as much as folks enjoy minding my business for me, with all the gabblers in the world, ain't you never heard remarks?"

So that was why the girls stopped talking, the kind ones, and the mean ones said things about "white trash" when she came on them suddenly. Only now, did she know, why those things concerned her. All her life they had taunted her, about her shameful parents, and she had been too dumb to see. She spoke slowly, her tears dry.

"They say about colored with white—, they say all the colored ones must know her too well is why she had to mix with trash. They say it's an accident when that kind gets married. They said it to me and I never knew they meant you. I never knew what they meant."

"I should think you wouldn't understand them, the hussies".

Timidly, Vivvie put her question, "Were you married?"

"I was married, tight enough, and I'll have pay of anyone, white, black, grizzly or gray that says I wasn't. I should think you'd be ashamed, asking your Ma such a thing?"

"I am not, I'm only ashamed of that."

"Well, you can stop having tantrums, if you are, my miss. Many a girl would be proud she had a white Pa to give her a bright skin and good hair."

"I am not. I am ashamed that I had to be born. I had rather be black, like Tim."

"Hush up, girl. You are as glad of your good looks as the next one." This was a hardness she had never dreamed to face. Who would have thought the child could take on so? "You know, baby, white and colored have always mixed, since slave days. You mustn't carry on so."

"Slavery times were different. They couldn't help themselves. You don't have to do such things now. No one made you—"

Kate's sharp angry voice cut her off. "Vivvie! Stop that talk this minute! You hear me! A child of mine to be so bold. That comes of letting you talk with that Tim, putting the devil in your mind."

"He never, he never," Vivvie defended. "Tim wouldn't say a word to me that an angel couldn't hear." Oh, it was terrible for them both, standing hard eyed and angry, they who loved each other so.

It was time to end the scene. The child would be falling out next thing. "Be that as it may," Ma's voice rang with the old firmness, "You march yourself up the stairs, and wash your face in some good cold water, see if that will calm you down. Having tantrums all over the place like a five year old. March! before I turn you across my apron like you was one."

Left alone, the woman dropped on a kitchen chair, rocking her gaunt shoulders backward and forward, moaning, weeping. "My one little baby, my baby, I lost her now, I lost her, Lordy, Lordy, my baby. Oh mercy, mercy." Presently she rose, they must eat. Setting the kettle on the stove, she poked the fire viciously beneath it. "Did I know who said such things to her I could twist their neck with a grin."

In the trim little chamber above, a girl writhed on the bed, twisting her face in hard, dry, sobbing, a fit of shame, and rage and utter wretchedness. Having tantrums. Her slim body, wearied with its angry twitchings grew still, out of the welter of unaccustomed emotions two thoughts stood out clearly; Ma, who had forced "trash" on her for a father, had dared to despise Tim, Tim who loved her. The other thought? She was going to get up and walk straight out to Tim,

he was black enough for both of them.

Sliding from the bed, she stood looking down at the crumpled pillow, at the bright counterpane, wrinkled and soiled where her heels had dug in. Automatically she patted and smoothed them. Vivvie had her mother's taste for tidiness. Something of softness crept into her eyes, as her fingers touched one bright square, and then another, scraps from gay blossom colored frocks made for Vivvie, only here and there a sober blue or gray bit from Ma's work dresses. Ma had given Vivvie the best, always. Too bad she must be hurt. Turning from the bed Vivvie's sober gaze was caught by the fluttering whiteness of the frilled curtains. Ma preferred stiffly starched Nottingham, but it was Vivvie's choice that framed the window. It was Kate Benson's hand that kept them snowy and fresh. Vivvie need never touch a washboard. She held her hands idly before her, soft, creamy, flawless, and thought of Ma's, roughened and black, of Tim's big strong wrists, beside her own on the redchecked table. Too bad they both loved her. She could love only Tim.

At the washstand she lifted the pitcher and poured cool water into the big bowl. The baby Vivvie had been bathed in that bowl. Often had Ma told her so. Too bad, she supposed Ma would be hurt. Vivvie patted her face dry, rehung the towel neatly on its rack.

Beside the bed was Ma's deep chair, a towel pinned to its back protected the new cretonne covering; the covering had changed many times but the chair and its mission had been the same since first Vivvie could remember. It was there every night that Vivvie would snuggle into Ma's arms and tell her all the story of her day; every night she would kneel before it, with Ma's hand upon her head, "Bless Ma, make me a good girl," she would pray, then "Bless my baby, keep her a good girl," that was Ma. This night there would be no story and no prayer.

Afterward there would be good-night. Vivvie could sleep so calmly knowing Ma was there beside her, to cuddle and warm next when nights were cool, to waken for comfort when Vivvie dreamed of scary things. It had all been so sweet, not to last.

Vivvie gulped, but couldn't cry, there was work to do. In a corner was Vivvie's desk. Ma had placed it where she need not be disturbed in her study by the noise of sudsy smells from the kitchen. From its nooks the girl drew paper and pen. The note took but a minute,

"Ma, I have gone to Tim."
(To be concluded in the February
CRISIS)

THE POET'S PAGE

The Shadows of the Bridge

By EMMANUEL HOROWITZ

THE golden sunbeams gilded all
The yellow, dirt-floored street.—
—I paused a moment at the wall
Of Steel-Strong stone (slow Time's de-
feat)
And peered down from the concrete
bridge
Into the blackskinned world below,
Which lived its life beneath the scorn
Of white-born fools who hating grow.

I tried to find what I'd been told
Was passion's filth: the human dregs
Of mankind's life-deep cup of gold.
My eyes long searched the light-woo'd
road
For crime-scarred Negro murderers,
For savages, for rapine's mark,
For swearing, yellowed Negresses,
For whiskey's fouling breath. But hark!

I sought in vain such visual proofs
Of a white-cursed race's infamy.
I saw the echo of ourselves;
Few scorners there or men aloof.
I found my mother's tenderness
Was there to soothe away the children's
pain.
The chatting groups of smiling men
Reminded me of whites again.

That soft-eyed, whiskered patriarch
Was droning wisdom to the boys.
Where had I seen before such joys
In gainful rest; and learners zest?
The playful tots rebuked the dogs
And sped their running games again,
Before their buxom mothers' cries
Remind how quick the daytime flies.

I see the swaggering beaux and belles,
And hear the tales the joker tells;
The gossips sit and roll their eyes . . .
Are these the sins of Negro folk?
Breezes whisper, daylight rouses;
Children scamper, parents labor;
Lovers idle, a toiler carouses
Here, the shadowed mirror of the scorn-
ing world above.

I left the bridge and passed the scene,
My mind at rest, my soul serene.
"All humans are alike," I said,
"We all by Thought's sweet voice are
led."

Prospect

By CYRIL CREQUE

THE years have stolen the gold of yes-
terday
And left the present empty, drab and
cold;
We love to hear the centuries retold
In tales that lead our reasoning astray.
The wings that lifted us are torn away;

January, 1931

Our feet are lead which iron shackles
hold
In bond; we crouch like lambs within
a fold
That troop at pipings of the shepherd's
lay.

Our windows open on a western strand,
Where sunset's tangled glories hurry
on;
We bar the shutters with reluctant hand,
And, drunk with ashen dreams, forget
the dawn;
We linger and we lose, the Orient bland,
With early fingers, gilds the lighted
lawn.

Memory

By EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

I HAVE seen the robins
Molding their nests with their
bosoms—
Now I live in the town!

Yet street nor swirl of traffic
Can dim this vision fresh,
Which shines in memory
As the spruce lives, verdant,
And glows with the freshness of cress—
I have seen brisk robins
Molding their nests with their bosoms!

I have heard the orioles
Singing their gurgling songs.
Streets of the town,
My hungry heart stares past you
To the greens and greens of the spring,
And I pity the city-bred throng
That feels not the birds in its heart a-
nesting,
To whom the spring brings no breath
Of building birds in maples and poplars
and oaks,
And the budding orchards
That rain down the blooms and the dew.

Dark Cleveland

By VIRGINIA V. HOUSTON

Being Five Verses in Lieu of Vitriol,
with a sixth added for good
measure.

I.

FOR A GOSSIP

INCREDIBLE that silly you
Of stunted mind and muddled soul,
Could so defile with evil words,
Things of beauty, inestimable worth,
Friendships, love, one's very thoughts.

II.

FOR AN INTELLECTUAL

AT bridge, at tea, at dinner too,
You ask with supercilious air,
"Have you read this, do you know that?"
So tiring that I sigh and wish,
You buried under half my wit!

III.

FOR A BUSINESS MAN

BY day, a pillar of the "race"
Madly pursuing a filthy ore,
By night, a tortured prodigal,
Prostrate before the sullied Venus.

IV.

FOR A SCHOOLTEACHER

JUST beyond your dusty window,
Vendor of the useless arts,
Life and beauty and sorrow and love
Taunt your age-old cowardice
Seeking escape in lifeless books.

V.

FOR A SNOB

HOW is it possible you can be
Sure of superiority,
Since various mirrors exist?

VI.

FOR ONE APPROACHING SENILITY

IT is centuries since a great man
Wrote words of deep profundity
Concerning old-age and the fullness
thereof;
Read them poor deflated Priapus,
Cicero was a wise man,
I recommend him to you.

Hovering Prejudice

By

GEORGIA DOUGLAS JOHNSON

THE world is dark,
I cannot see my way,
Eternal clouds
Obscure the light of day.

I seek a rift, a break
A little space
There to behold
One God-illuminated place.

The Thought of You Returns

By MILTON BRIGHTE

OUT of the latticed window of the
past
I feel the breath of dreams go rushing
by
Seeking entrance where life is chambered
fast,
The memories of one dear flame-July.
Not once again has summer deemed it
sweet
Tho' neath the apple tree I loved again—
And the wild stream drowns the same
Lamb's bleat
Like one July day ere the winter rain.

Tho' now I hear a timid footfall strike
The varied pebbles down the orchard
aisle,
Familiar to my ear—so fairy-like
I find I am desolate, I cannot smile.
Long, long ago I fear my heart did die
When winter sleet disturbed a fair July.

THE BROWSING READER

Doctor Dillard of the Jeanes Fund. By Benjamin Brawley. New York: Fleming H. Revell Co. \$1.75.

DR. DILLARD is one of that small group of Southerners, of good family, thorough scholarship and sustained vision who bring to their work the temper of statesmanship. His work has been in the field of education, chiefly of Negroes, African and American, especially of rural colored folk in the southern United States. His administration of the Jeanes and Slater Funds has served to open the door of hope and opportunity to the poor; to build rural education upon fundamentals of accuracy and character; and to bring to the most backward communities the standards animating a citizen of the world. Mr. Brawley's book which is more a warm tribute than a critical estimate, is clear, sympathetic, and well documented with quotations from Dr. Dillard's writings which set forth explicitly his point of view.

H. J. S.

From Captivity to Fame, or the Life of George Washington Carver. By Raleigh H. Merritt. Boston: Meads Publishing Co. \$2.

THE life of the unassuming mystic and scientist and teacher who has contributed much to the welfare of his own and of the white race gives interest to even so imperfect a book as this. It is written in a spirit of deep admiration for Dr. Carver and his work and contains many recipes and much useful information gathered from Dr. Carver's bulletins.

H. J. S.

Poor Nigger. By Orio Vergain. Translated from the Italian by W. W. Bobson. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.50.

PERHAPS the chief merit of this story is that its fantastic adventures are made to seem plausible. It is the story of an African Negro boy tossed by fate from his native scene, into Europe, the world of prize-fighting, cabarets, fame, rising on the crest of a momentary wave, to become world boxing champion; and then dashed against the wall of white prejudice into oblivion. The writer is familiar, as journalists are familiar, with the sporting world. And he seeks to contrast with the changing evanescent scene, the bewildered, slow, dreaming mind of

the African. Perhaps the Negro boxer's mind is made to seem too simple. It is almost, at times, as if the author were sustaining a thesis about the Negro mind in a white environment. Insofar, the book fails. The translation is fluent and the narrative easy and rapid.

H. J. S.

Gulf Stream. By Marie Stanley. New York: Coward-McCann. \$1.50.

AMONG the many novels written about "the problem" of race relations, this one has a silvery distinction. In a quiet, simple and gracious style the story is told of a light colored girl who bears the child of a casual white lover, who leaves her child in the Sand Town and goes to be the companion of a dying creole woman, one who had known the gay and polite world. By the dead woman educated and endowed with house and income, the heroine faces the Nemesis of color that pursues her: the daughter she had brought up to be "white" elects to cleave to her own race, to marry a Negro and help him in his teaching career. The characters in this story, particularly Adele, have an intense and even a moving history. It is clearly seen as part of the hopeless problem of light colored people in the South. But apart from its subject matter this first novel is a distinguished performance. It is the work of a clear and sympathetic understanding and of a delicate writer of English.

H. J. S.

A History of Atlanta University. By Myron W. Adams. Atlanta, 1930.

IT is fitting that the last president of Atlanta University, under its older form, should sum up the work of this extraordinary institution. The University is now in process of being transformed to a Graduate School but the marvelous place which it played in high school and college education for the Negro in the United States must not be forgotten. It is set down here in concise form with much personal information concerning those who founded and carried on the work. To this is added a complete catalogue of officers and graduates.

W. E. B. D.

THERE is something tremendously refreshing and hopeful about

George Schuyler. I have watched the procession of young radicals since before the world war with lack-luster eye. There was no doubt about their smartness. They were flippant, careless, cruel and bold. But the trouble was, as I was always asking myself: are they going to be willing to pay the price? It isn't the most difficult thing in the world to be radical. The fact is, at a certain age it is about the easiest thing that a man can be. But to pay the price of your ideas; to be willing to sweat blood and yet stand up and quietly state the truth as you see it,—that's the kind of radical that the world needs. Most of the young men that I have in mind couldn't come through. They fell by the wayside. They gave up. They turned capitalist, conservative, trade-unionist, or worse than all, they kept still. But George Schuyler, so far, is talking things that most people do not want to hear; is starving like a gentleman, and one has to read what he says, whether they agree with it or not. He has written several articles recently for the *American Mercury*, the last of which, "Black Warriors", is in the December number. Read it.

YOU have been intending some time to accumulate a library. Most aspirants have visions of sets of books bound sumptuously in brown and crimson leather. To these, we are not talking. They may buy books, but they do not read them. But if among our readers are some who would like to read and to own the books that they read, we want to recommend the Little Blue Books. Perhaps you never heard of them? They are published out in Girard, Kansas, by Haldeman Julius and they cost 5c each. Perhaps you have heard of them, but think that they are some kind of fakes with poor print, bad proof reading, and with large cuts from the original texts. But this is not true. A person spending \$5 or \$10 for the 5c Blue Books can furnish himself with a five-foot shelf of modern literature which will beat President Eliot's. If you doubt this, send 5c to THE CRISIS and be convinced. We have bought 1500 of these books for distribution among our readers. Let us hear from you.

W. E. B. D.

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January

ALONG THE COLOR LINE

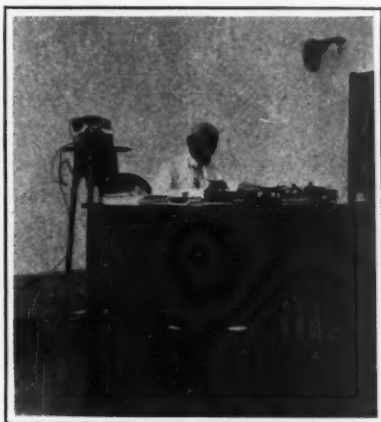
EUROPE

¶ The reports on the Mandates at the Assembly of the League of Nations, which has closed at Geneva, emphasized the work of the League against slavery and showed that in the British Mandate in the Cameroons slave-trading was still practiced but was being suppressed. Steps were taken against the alarming increase in the liquor-traffic and the famine in Ruanda-Urundi was discussed. Questions of agricultural credit in French Togoland were also taken up.

¶ An Entente of Colonial nations has been suggested by the Paris correspondent of a Portuguese paper. The aim of such an entente would be to repel the propaganda of humanitarianism which many fear will internationalize Colonies and bring them under the Mandate system.

¶ There is much interest in Germany and Austria over the American Negro. Anna Nussbaum's anthology of Negro Poetry has had wide circulation. She has also translated extracts from Negro books for the press. The film, "Hallelujah," has recently been exhibited for the first time in Berlin. One paper declares that it marks an epoch in the development of the film. Another stresses the fact that while Al Jolson has to blacken up to pretend to be a Negro, in this film real Negroes act. *Der Tag* praises it as a sincere accomplishment that is inspiring and attractive. The *Film-Courier* declares that the colored actors achieve the rank of first-class players. The *Tageblatt* calls it the soul of the American Negro.

¶ The attack of the German Fascists on Ossyp Dymow's "Shadows Over Harlem" has been widely commented on. The title of the play was taken from a poem by Claude McKay ("Harlem Shadows") translated in Anna Nussbaum's anthology. It is a comedy with music by Bela Reinitz and it gives a glimpse of the life and sorrows and dreams of a waiter, a dancer, a cook and others in a Harlem cabaret. The comedy ranged between pain and joke and is said to have been very beautiful. It was given in the Stuttgart Landes Theatre. During its first performance, the Fascists staged a demonstration of distaste for anything but "German" culture. It is said that the real motive of the attack was the hope of German capitalists to regain their African colonies and for that reason



Eugene Roy,
Ex-President of Haiti, Page 22

to prevent any growth of sympathy for oppressed peoples.

AMERICA

¶ The elections give the following results for colored candidates: *Pennsylvania*, Samuel B. Hart, William H. Fuller and Walter E. Tucker, elected to the State Legislature. *West Virginia*, Stewart Calhoun, elected to the House of Delegates. *New York*, James E. Stephens, elected to the Assembly; Charles E. Toney and James S. Watson, elected Judges in the 10th Judicial District of New York City.



Stenio Vincent,
President of Haiti, Page 22

California, Frederick M. Roberts, re-elected to the Assembly. *Illinois*, Oscar De Priest, re-elected to Congress from the 1st District; Adelbert H. Roberts, re-elected State Senator, 3rd District; George W. Blackwell, re-elected State Representative, 1st District; Harris B. Gaines, re-elected State Representative, 1st District; William E. King, re-elected State Representative, 3rd District; Charles J. Jenkins, elected State Representative, 3rd District; William J. Warfield, re-elected State Representative, 5th District. *New Jersey*, Dr. Frank S. Hargraves, re-elected to the Assembly from Essex County. *Kansas*, Dr. W. N. Blount, re-elected to the Legislature. *Missouri*, Frank W. Clegg, elected a member of the General Assembly; Charles H. Turpin, elected Justice of the Peace in the 4th District of St. Louis; Langston Harrison and William A. Morant, re-elected Constables, same district; Ira Dorsey, re-elected Constable, 5th District. *Michigan*, Charles Roxborough, elected to the State Senate from Detroit.

¶ Among the prominent colored candidates defeated were Judge Albert B. George, candidate for re-election as Municipal Judge in Chicago; Mr. C. N. Langston, candidate for County Commissioner, Chicago; Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland, candidate for School Committee in Newport, Rhode Island; Alexander Martin, Candidate for Common Pleas Judge in Ohio; Perry B. Jackson, candidate for re-election to the Ohio Legislature; William B. Bush, candidate for the Ohio Legislature from Cincinnati. Three colored candidates for the Legislature in the 4th District of Maryland were defeated.

¶ Twenty-one southern white women representing eight states issued a statement in November which was sent to the Governors of 12 southern states and the state of Indiana:

"We, a group of white women drawn from religious, educational and political groups assembled at Atlanta to consider shocking resurgence mob violence during current year appeal to you as chief executive of your state. Decrease in lynching noted during past ten years largely due to aggressive and determined attitude of governors and sheriffs of southern states. During this year notable examples of courageous and prompt action on part of gov-

ernors preventing lynchings encourages belief that every governor has power and influence largely to erase this crime from record of his state. We pledge ourselves to support governors, sheriffs, and judges upon whom responsibility rests."

¶ Roland Hayes is making his regular concert tour in the United States. In November he appeared in the North Carolina College auditorium and the Greensboro *Daily News* calls the event "one of extraordinary importance in the musical world. The supreme art of Roland Hayes has justly acclaimed him as one of the greatest artists of the age and his place of eminence is unique."

¶ The Secretary of the Resident Commissioner of the Philippines in Washington, D. C., wrote a letter to his wife in which he spoke of colored Americans in an uncomplimentary manner. This letter was published in one of the smaller native weeklies. A reply was immediately made by Hon. L. K. Santos, former Governor of the Provinces of Rizal and Nueva Vizcaya. Santos is one of the outstanding figures in Philippine politics and literature and his reply was published by all of the Philippine dailies and covered four pages.

THE EAST

¶ The Education Committee of the Ashland Place Y. W. C. A., Brooklyn, New York, held an Occupational Exposition in December featuring women's work and illustrating her earning, buying, and saving power.

¶ The beautiful furnishings of Villa Lewaro the celebrated estate of the



N. W. Carter

late Mme. Walker at Irvington-on-Hudson, New York have been sold at auction. The aggregate prices received amounted to about \$50,000.

¶ Frank G. Allen, retiring Governor of Massachusetts has re-appointed Attorney M. W. Bullock as a member of the State Board of Parole.

¶ John W. Green, Jr., a graduate of Hampton Institute is the first Negro to secure an aviator's license in Massachusetts from the U. S. Department of Commerce.

¶ While on a lecture tour in Buffalo, New York, Countee Cullen was re-

fused service in the depot restaurant of the New York Central Railway Co.

¶ Norman W. Carter was born in 1910 in Massachusetts and began to study music at the age of seven. He was pianist at the High School and soon became organist of Eastern Avenue Baptist Church. In June, 1930, he became a colleague of the American Guild of Organists and is now a student at the Weltman Conservatory of Music in Boston and Assistant Organist of the Morgan Memorial Church. He has six brothers and sisters and is supporting himself and his musical education. He recently gave a concert in New York at which Dr. John Haynes Holmes lectured.

¶ William A. Galloway was born in 1865 at St. Kitts, British West Indies. He came to the United States in 1889 and took up his residence in Philadelphia. He was naturalized in 1900. In 1904 he entered the postal service as letter carrier and was retired in 1930. He was never late in reporting for duty and was rated 100 per cent for punctuality and efficiency. He received many gifts on his retirement.

¶ The Boston Players of Boston have made a notable record. Recently they gave Eugene O'neil's "All God's Chillun Got Wings" under the direction of Mrs. Esther Wilson. Earlier in the year they presented "The First Mrs. Cheverick", and "In Abraham's Bosom" under the direction of Ralf Coleman. As a result of their work they won the first prize, the "Baker Cup", in The Boston Little Theatre Tournament.

¶ At Ford Hall Forum, Boston, last



The Boston Players

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A. H. Roberts
Page 17

W. E. Tucker
Page 17

W. J. King
Page 21

E. F. Fredericks
Page 22

month, the Editor of THE CRISIS debated with Professor Thomas Nixon Carver of Harvard on the question of "Social Equality for Negroes". Every available seat, and all the standing room was taken and several hundred turned away.

Dr. George E. Haynes has returned from his work as Regional Consultant under the International Service of Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. of North America. He has visited South and East Africa including 14 principal cities and towns. He then visited the Belgium Congo and Portuguese Angola, travelling in all over 11,000 miles. In November he was tendered a banquet at the Hotel Woodstock, New York.

Lincoln University met representatives from St. Andrews and the University of Glasgow, Scotland, in debate in New York City. The subject of debate was The Influence of the Machine Age on Civilization, and the audience, which was overwhelmingly colored, very generously and

justly gave the decision to the Scotch debaters.

At East Barrington, New Hampshire, the grave of Aggie, a slave who died a century ago has been marked by The Daughters of the American Revolution. She nursed the sick during a serious epidemic in 1800.

MIDDLE EAST

The Playground Athletic League of Baltimore has started an active colored division with Gerald E. Allen as Director, Anna Coulston in charge of music, and Alice Davis Crawford in charge of dramatics. There are six persons on the staff.

Dr. Pezavia O'Connell, professor of History at Morgan College, Baltimore, is dead. He was born in Mississippi, sixty-nine years ago and educated at Gammon Seminary and at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He has been a teacher at Morgan since 1920.

A conference of colored land-grant colleges was held in the auditorium of

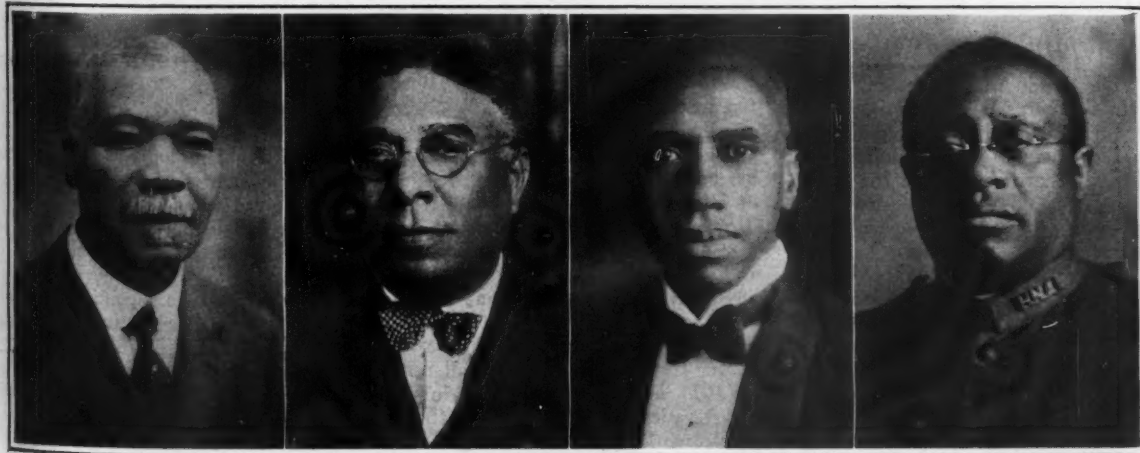
the Department of Interior in Washington in November. W. J. Hale, President of the Tennessee A. and I. State College presided.

The Howard-Lincoln game was played before 20,000 persons at Washington November 22. Howard won by a blocked kick that bounded beyond the end zone for a safety, early in the third quarter. The score was 2 to 0.

Three dormitories are being erected at Howard, to house 335 women. Albert I. Cassell is the architect.

The annual report of Howard University shows that during the year 1929-30 there were 2,619 students from 38 states and 18 foreign countries. Besides the Government appropriation there are \$535,000 received as gifts from private sources. The Federal Government appropriated \$334,251; the total budget was \$915,714.

Freedman's Hospital, Washington, D. C. has made its report for 1930. Four thousand three hundred forty-one patients were treated, 1,831 surgical operations performed and 1,095



W. A. Galloway
Page 18

W. R. Green
Page 22

John Burdette
Page 22

A. W. Washington
Page 20



The Cosmopolitan Club, Pueblo, Colorado, Page 21

received dental treatment. Additions have been made to the nurses home, power plant and the employees' quarters.

☐ Representatives of health and welfare agencies interested in the National Negro Health week movement met in Washington in October. Assistant Surgeon General R. C. Williams presided. An executive committee was appointed under Chairman George W. Bowles, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Medical Association. The headquarters of the movement was transferred from Tuskegee to Howard University where it will be under the general supervision of Dr. Algernon B. Jackson.

THE SOUTHEAST

☐ The 43rd Annual Session of the State Teachers' Association of Virginia met in Richmond in November.

☐ The Duke Memorial Building for crippled Negro children at the Orthopedic Hospital, Gastonia, North Carolina, was dedicated in November. It cost \$25,000.

☐ Two colored men, Quille Addison of Georgia and Henry A. Miller of South Carolina, have received bronze medals for heroism from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission at Pittsburgh. Addison saved an old white man from being burned to death in 1929. Miller rescued a man from a caved-in well in 1927.

☐ Allen Wadsworth Washington was

born in Gloucester County, Virginia. His early life was spent as an oysterman and fisherman in the waters about his home.

He entered Hampton in 1885 with his classmate, Robert R. Moton. Upon graduation in 1891 he became assistant to the Commandant and for many years was associated with Major Moton as disciplinarian of Hampton Institute. In 1917 Captain Washington became "Major," when Dr. Moton went to Tuskegee.

Major Washington was president of the Negro Organization Society of Virginia, a trustee of Boydton Institute and the Girls' Industrial School at Peake, Va., an active worker in the National Negro Business League. He died on September 16 and the burial was in the school cemetery at Hampton Institute.

☐ Arthur Howe, assistant professor of citizenship at Dartmouth College, has been unanimously elected president of Hampton Institute by the Board of Trustees. President Howe was born in South Orange, N. J., March 3, 1890. He is a graduate of the Hotchkiss School of Connecticut and of Yale College. While at Yale he was for three years a member of the varsity hockey team and varsity football team. In 1911 he was football captain and All-American quarterback. After a year's work with the Young Men's Christian Association he entered Union Theological Seminary, from which he

graduated in 1916. He has taught at Loomis Institute, Windsor, Conn., at the Taft School, Watertown, Conn., and at Dartmouth College.

Mrs. Howe is a daughter of the late General Armstrong, founder of Hampton Institute. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have five children. President Howe will take up his duties at Hampton on January 1st next, after a month spent in visiting various colleges throughout the South.

THE FAR SOUTH

☐ During the year 1930, the beneficiaries of 763 deceased members of the colored Masons of Texas received in cash \$357,749. An equal sum was distributed as sick pensions and charity by local lodges.

☐ At Marietta, Georgia, James Palmer, a Negro, entered a burning building and rescued Mays Ward, a prominent citizen and undertaker who had fallen through the burning roof. The fire involved a loss of \$250,000.

☐ The Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs has issued a pamphlet called "The Spirit of Mississippi", which is a splendid statement of what the colored women are doing under great difficulties for the social uplift of the black folk of that state.

☐ In 1830, the Southern Presbyterians founded a white school in Mississippi. After the war, the buildings were sold to the State, the name changed to Alcorn University, in honor of the Recon-

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struction Governor, and the school was opened for colored men. At first, it was very well supported by the State, and then grievously neglected, becoming a center of graft for white folk and mismanagement by colored people. In 1915, L. J. Rowan became President, and the school began to receive better support from the State. It was opened to both men and women and the grade of the work raised.

☐ Foster R. Lampkin has been made Principal of the new \$100,000 Spencer High School of Columbus, Georgia, and at the same time acts as Supervisor for colored schools. He was educated at Georgia State College and has studied at Boston University and Harvard University.

☐ Willis J. King, the new President of Samuel Huston College, Austin, Texas, was born in Texas in 1886. His parents were born slaves and he was educated in the country schools, being forced to leave after finishing the eighth grade to help support the family. At the age of seventeen years he entered the High School department of Wiley University, graduating from college in 1910. He continued his education in the Boston School of Theology and Har-

vard Divinity School and then served as pastor for ten years. From 1918-1930 he taught at Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga., and in 1922 represented Negro students at the World Student Christian Convention at Peking, China. He is the author of one book, "The Negro in American Life." In 1929 he was granted a scholarship for study at Oxford University, and 1930 he was elected President of Samuel Huston College.

THE BORDER STATES

☐ The First Standard Bank and the American Mutual Savings Bank, two colored banks of Kentucky, have closed their doors. Their failure was precipitated by the failure of three of the largest white banks in the city.

☐ On Sunday, November 9, the cornerstone of the new building at Meharry Medical College was laid at Nashville. Representatives from all Negro organizations and many white organizations were present. In the Senior medical class of the college there are 46 members of whom 35 have full college degrees; of the Freshman medical class there are 50 members of whom 40 have college degrees.

☐ The new library at Fisk University was dedicated in November. It cost \$400,000 and was erected by white labor. The white architect and contractors refused to employ any colored persons. However, Aaron Douglass has decorated the interior with a series of frescoes. Fifty colleges were represented at the dedication and conference, headed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of Columbia University. The only colored speaker was Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee.

THE MIDDLE WEST

☐ At Pueblo, Colorado, there has been formed a cosmopolitan club for interracial good will. Dr. C. F. Holmes, a Negro, is President, Rev. Donald S. Howard, Vice President, and Mrs. A. W. Hall, Secretary. The movement began with an exhibit at the Colorado State Fair in September. There were six sections in the Interracial booth with contributions from Italians, Greeks, Spanish, Japanese, Negroes and American whites.

☐ At Youngstown, Ohio, Willis Griffin was hit by a truck and had his leg broken and chest crushed in 1929. He brought suit through one of the leading



The Emperor and Empress of Ethiopia with the Crown Prince and his young brother

lawyers, William R. Stewart, a colored man, and recently received a verdict of \$14,000; one of the largest ever returned in that vicinity.

☐ The *Gary American*, a weekly colored newspaper, of Indiana, has installed a \$25,000 printing plant. The editor, Chauncey Townsend, is a graduate in Journalism from the University of Southern California.

☐ An elaborate community celebration was held in Cleveland, Ohio, to celebrate the bi-millennium of the birth of Virgil. Prizes were awarded for translations and a Negro boy, Robert Coleman, fourteen years of age, received the second prize of \$30 in the city-wide contest.

☐ In Wisconsin, C. A. Fisher of Milwaukee has been appointed a Probation Officer and Field and Case Worker of the County. He was former pastor of St. Mark's A. M. E. Church.

☐ At the first session of the Des Moines, Iowa, Book Forum, Negro literature was reviewed. Many prominent white and colored people took part in the discussions.

☐ Dr. Edward W. Beasley of Chicago has gone to Vienna and Berlin for six months to study obstetrics and pediatrics. He is on the staff of the Northwestern Medical School, and the Children's Hospital.

☐ The Gilpin Players of Cleveland, Ohio, will present in February, "Quagmire" by Annie Frierson. This will be given at the second season of the Theatre of Nations.

☐ H. D. West received his degree of A.M. at the University of Illinois this year. He is teaching Chemistry at the Meharry Medical School, and is a son-in-law of Dr. W. F. Penn, Chief of the Surgical Service at the United States Veteran Hospital, Number 91, Tuskegee, Alabama.

☐ Abbie Mitchell sang at Orchestra Hall, Chicago, in October. The critic of the *Chicago Daily News* says: "I have never before heard singing of such consistently sage and beautiful workmanship, or such pure and elaborated vocal style turned with such dignity of purpose and such satisfying effect to the disclosure of how fine a musical instrument the human voice can make."

☐ At Orchestral Hall, October 22, a prize winners' night featured a white and colored chorus which sang last August at the great Chicagoland Festival. The director of the colored chorus, James A. Mundy, received the *Chicago Tribune* baton prize, and John Burdette was starred as the leading soloist of the occasion. Burdette was born in Kentucky and received his musical education in Chicago. He has a glorious voice and is destined to be widely known and heard.

☐ William R. Green of Cleveland, Ohio, son of the Hon. John P. Green,

died in October. He was born in 1872, educated in the Cleveland public schools and has been practicing 36 years at the bar. Mr. Green was for twelve years Captain in the Ohio National Guard and was a member of many organizations. But for his untimely death he probably would have been appointed to the Common Pleas Court Bench. He was a Catholic by religion.

WEST INDIES

☐ The election of members of the legislature in Haiti went off with great success. President Eugene Roy was succeeded by Stenio Vincent. Mr. Vincent is 56 years of age and a Journalist by profession. He has been an outspoken opponent of the American Occupation. He is the first regularly elected President of Haiti since 1916.

☐ Haiti's new President has occupied many prominent positions in the service of the State. He has been Secretary of the Haitian Legations in Paris and Berlin; Chief of the Division of Public Education, Attorney-General of the Supreme Court, Mayor of Port-au-Prince, Secretary of the Interior and President of the Haitian Senate.

☐ The new Cabinet of Haiti will consist of: Public Works and Finance, Percival Thoby; Public Instruction, Dr. Victor Carre; Foreign Affairs, Paulus Sannon; Justice, Adheimar Auguste; Interior, Arthur Furnier; Chief of Cabinet; Lelio Mallebranche; Undersecretary of State, Leon Alfred.

☐ Mr. E. F. Fredericks was born in British Guiana and began to teach school at sixteen. He came to the United States in 1903 to take a law course at Shaw University and was admitted to the bar. In 1914 he entered Gray's Inn, London, as a law student and was called to the English bar in 1918. During the War he worked in the War office and the Internal Revenue Department. In 1918 he visited Paris and attended the first Pan African Congress. Mr. Fredericks returned to British Guiana in 1919, and in 1930 was elected to the Legislature. Since that he has been made a member of the Executive Council, being the first full-blooded Negro who has had that distinction in Guiana.

WEST AFRICA

☐ His Highness, the Alake of Abeokuta, in British West Africa, has ordered and had delivered a special Rolls-Royce car from England.

☐ G. A. Champion, staff officer of the Gold Coast Police, is dead in London. He has occupied many responsible positions in the Police Department of the Gold Coast.

☐ At Tarkwa, British West Africa, the marriage was recently celebrated

of J. K. Acquah-Baiden and Miss Ernstina S. Dodoo. The bride is the daughter of Buampon Wireku II, who is the Ohin of Ayinaberim. She was educated at St. Mary's Convent, Cape Coast. The bridegroom is a business man in the employ of the United African Company.

☐ The Commission of Inquiry into the massacre of native women on the Gold Coast, British West Africa last year, has finally made a report of 178 pages. On the whole, the Report condemns the Nigerian Government, and finds that the disorders arose from high-handed action and lack of understanding on the part of officials. The Commission recommends a report on the native court system in the disturbed areas, and special training for officers and native soldiers who are called to aid the civil authorities.

☐ After the year 1930 the government of the Gold Coast, British West Africa is going to grant "one or more" scholarships for Negro students who wish to study medicine in England. The Scholarship will amount to \$1,500 a year for five years, with steamship passage to England and return. There is also an outfit allowance of \$250 and the same sum for medical expenses. Scholars must be recommended, and the Governor has the last word in appointment; the movements and actions of the scholars are under very careful control by Colonial authorities.

☐ A Negro, J. H. Doherty, died at Lagos, British West Africa, leaving a fortune of \$3,000,000. Mr. Doherty was a merchant dealing in cotton goods and native produce. He leaves a son who is a member of the English bar, and will succeed him. American papers reported that Doherty was an Irishman! On the contrary, he was an African and one of the most respected citizens of Lagos.

☐ The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company have established an American Bank at Monrovia, Liberia. President King has designated it as the State depository. Peter Davidson, a white man, formerly connected with National City Bank, N. Y., is the manager. Previous to the establishment of this bank the English Bank of West Africa was the only banking institution in the country. This represents the passing of English financial control and the beginning of American.

☐ A special commission to study the question of native labor in the Belgian Congo has left Antwerp. It consists of Mr. Engels, Colonel Bertrand, Dr. Mattoule, and Mr. Rykman.

☐ Fifteen per cent of the tax receipts in Angola, Portuguese West Africa, goes to the officials who collect the taxes. The native hut tax at present is equal to a laborer's salary for four months.

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Classic Music and Virtuous Ladies

A Note on Colored Folks' Prejudices

By BENJAMIN STOLBERG

IT goes without saying that race prejudice is a curse which afflicts both races. By and large, and with endless and amusing self-contradictions, white prejudice comes from a sense of superiority and black prejudice from a sense of inferiority. The most patent marks of race prejudice are too well known to be discussed here. But it is amazing how subtly and permeatively this spiritual disease colors the attitude even of those, one is almost tempted to say especially of those, who believe themselves free from it. Many whites think that they are completely emancipated when they gass about the Negro being just "as good" as they are. This unctious good-will pose is the *motif* of most of the sweetness-and-light "inter-racial" committees of the Dr. Alexander Dett variety. The point of course is that no race is as "good" or as "bad" as another, for such ethical yardsticks are culturally as impossible as they are irrelevant. And as individuals, we all have our moments good and bad each in his own way. It may be a peculiar perversity in my temperament, but the folly of race prejudice has been especially borne in on me *not* when I met the "fine type" of Negro, but when I met the hypocritical black parson, the professional "splendid character" fake (male and female), the dirty politician, the usually empty New Negro booster and all the other colored varieties of our white swindlers and fools and clowns. It was then that I appreciated forever the exceedingly common humanity of mankind.

If anything, race prejudice in its subtler manifestations is more extant and corrosive among the colored people. The dominant race can take out its race prejudice more overtly, directly, and brutally. A persecuted race is often forced to get tangled up in a hate more covertly, indirectly, and deviously. I know a good many whites who lack all race prejudice, even when they know as little about the Negro as Mr. Carl Van Vechten. I know, even relatively, fewer Negroes who are totally devoid of the more unconscious and esoteric phases of race prejudice.

A fascinating study could be written on the American Negro's race prejudice. But this is not a definitive attempt. I wish to point out rather fleetingly a few samples, though staple samples, of colored race prejudice, which complexly parades as racial enlightenment. As my text I shall use

Benjamin Stolberg is a brilliant American writer often read in the pages of the Atlantic, the Nation, and others of our best periodicals. He criticizes here frankly and openly two articles in the December CRISIS: one, by Dr. Dett of Hampton, and the other, by the anonymous author of "White Men and Colored Women". We shall expect letters and answers, of course.

two articles which appeared in the last December CRISIS. One was by an anonymous colored woman on "White Men and a Colored Woman." And the other was by Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett on "A Musical Invasion of Europe."

The anonymous lady is a typical professional interracial good-willer, a civic committee fan, full of moral-palliative gab on the race question. The lady is rather affected, and under the easy protection of anonymity she admits that she is a handsome thing, deliciously faced and formed. She is, or rather was, a member of at least three "worthy" interracial groups in her Zenith City: of a "good government" committee, the Board of a colored "charity," and "The Civic Betterment Group," which she calls a "whole souled body."

Of course, all these committees were loaded with Babbitts and "social work" ladies. On each one of them there was a white man who pretended to an "enlightened" and "fact-finding" passion for racial betterment. And in each instance his passion seems to have been diverted to our anonymous friend. A lawyer on one committee under the guise of rapt attention to her racial statistics, maneuvered her into a corner and interrupted with an impassioned low voice: "I am perfectly crazy about you. . . ." A business man on the second committee used the phone and the florist. A parson on the third committee, with the perennial hypocrisy of his kind on such matters told her: "in rapid impassioned words how much he has come to admire (her) and how much more he wants (her) to mean in his life." "A flood of horror rushed over" the lady, and she in turn rushed home and wrote for all the world to read about the terrible "racial discrimination" which these bad, "white men" had poured out on her.

Now, I wish to submit that the anonymous lady is not merely foolish, which it seems to me she is, but what is far more important a typical carrier of race hatred. I know the gentry she describes even better than I know her kind of self-admittedly pretty female. That they are fools, I do not deny. Their ill success with the lady is sufficient proof. They are so pathetic that I cannot help but pity them. Imagine the dreary paucity of a life which has to beg for a little sin from a fellow social up-lifter! And think of the dullness with which they misgauged what seems to be a rather teasing lady, happily married, for a Village flapper! If our anonymous lady really were as enlightened as she thinks she is, she would have shown her understanding by laughing the matter off. She might have shown, if that's the way she felt, her vexation. But how silly and race-conscious in the bad sense, to suspect these Babbitts, in this case, of *race prejudice!* They bother *every* woman, of *any* color, who strikes their simple erotic fancy, and where they think they can get away with it.

I should like to ask, are there no colored asses of that kind? Or is every colored man a perfect Don Juan? When a white man has an affair with a colored woman, in which both might conceivably be partly intrigued by racial difference, would he thereby by definition be an unconscionable scoundrel? What utter stupidity! And yet I have heard scores of colored people express just this sort of sexual bigotry. Even though most people are quite hypocritical about such matters, part of this sort of hypocrisy certainly springs from a deep seated race prejudice.

And now to Dr. Dett's description of the European tour of the Hampton Choir. For one thing, as a practicing journalist, I wish to say that his deliberate omission of the racial unpleasantnesses the Choir encountered in Europe is rather poor reporting, of which the unconscious motive was the wrong kind of race pride. But be that as it may, he shows certain race prejudices, so characteristic of the "fine type" American Negro, full of Goodness, Truth and Beauty, that his mental processes form ideal illustrations of just what I mean.

Dr. Dett writes:

The discovery of the presence of forty young Negroes accompanied by five older

ones among the "tourist-third" passengers of the French steamer . . . was the cause of much conjecture.

"Islanders," was one comment; "A Negro show," was another; "Entertainers," was still another. But as the dress of the party was quiet, and none drank wine, spoke dialect, or indulged in gambling, these conjectures did not seem to be substantiated, and the mystery deepened. When it was further noted that these young people were reserved in their dancing, orderly at games, unobtrusive at meals, and friendly to strangers without making advances, curiosity over-rode convention, and inquiries, amounting almost to demands, were made that we tell who and what we were, and wherefore and whither we were bound.

"A choir from a Negro school?" "Then surely we would sing; perhaps someone would sing a solo. Let's see—'I'll Always be in Love With You'—that's a pretty song, but 'Ole Man River' is better, don't you think—has more snap, and well, you know, it's more characteristic."

When it became known that the choir's repertoire contained only classic music and that most of this was of a religious nature, wonder gave place to a sort of amused surprise. . . .

Lordy, what insufferable prigs this group of young men and women must be! Their dress so quiet! No bad language! Of course, never a drink! No cards! In other words, the sophisticated Dr. Dett accepts Octavus Roy Cohen's caricature of the American Negro and then denies it by turning his young people into sticks. All he forgot to mention is that the youngsters refrained from eating fried chicken and watermelons. Personally I think the

good musical doctor maligns his Choir. At least I hope there were *some* boys and girls, who did have a drink if they wanted it, or a game of cards, and who dressed with better taste than he describes. But what interests me is Dr. Dett's reaction to the white passengers. An intelligent white man, in Dr. Dett's opinion, is apparently one, who believes that colored young people should be the kind of people he seems to consider as highly refined.

Just note his pseudo-subtle rebuke to what he considers white ignorance, which wants to hear "Ole Man River." The Hampton Choir, he'll have you know, sings "only classic music." And so he gives to a gay ship-board crowd a "Concert de Bienfaisance" of only highbrow stuff, to show that the Negro knows how. Now, no sensible person doubts that well trained musicians of *any* race can play and sing *any* kind of music. But what's wrong with the Spirituals? We have rediscovered them only three short years ago. Are the Messers Dett already ashamed of them? Why is it such a racial insult to believe, with common horse sense, that the Spirituals *are* "characteristic" of the American Negro. Are they characteristic of Roumanians? What perfect nonsense! The Negro is not a monstrosity who can feel other people's cultural heritage better than his own. And whatever hick from the Dakotas may have asked the Hampton Choir for "Ole Man River," in addition to Bach, merely showed his good sense. If the Hampton Choir cannot sing spirituals and even play jazz, the worse for its musicianship. It would

be much better off without classical "religious" songs, anyway. What the American Negro needs least is "religion," especially the "liberal" religion which is sneaking in on all of us just when the old religion, thank goodness, is beginning to show the first signs of disintegration. Dr. Dett's whole attitude reeks with a "refined" inferiority feeling and all its correlatives of racial shame and racial prejudice.

What the American Negro needs at this juncture of our race problem is not more Sweetness and Light, "interracial" committees packed with Splendid Christian Characters in the best Booker T. Washington tradition. Today especially all such refined hokum merely leads to a kind of inverted Negrophobia on his part, a "liberal" sort of racial sensitiveness, shame, and prejudice. He must realize that race prejudice is largely economically determined; that the "social work," committee-warming Negro who does not stand up for his rights in these "committees" but merely engages in "racial betterment" discussions is only a modern version of the old Uncle Tom; that constant boasting about the preferential treatment which the New Negro artist and writer receives will not solve the racial and cultural segregation of the millions of the colored masses. And when the American Negro will learn to fight for enlightenment instead of merely affecting it, he will—paradoxically enough—become really broad-minded and not see racial insults, where none are meant. There is enough race prejudice among the whites without giving the wrong reasons for it.

The Zulu Singers in London

By CHARLES S. WESLEY

THE Zulu singers, who have come to London for the special purpose of making phonographic records for H. M. V., His Master's Voice, (The Gramophone Company), have also been singing to large audiences in public halls, as incidents in their visit to London. There are ten singers in the group. The major parts on the program are taken by a mixed double quartette, four male and four female singers. When an observer enters a room and sees them for the first time or when they appear upon the stage for the first time, disillusionment begins instantly. For our geographies and travel manuals have given each of us certain mental pictures of the Zulus, and we are quite unprepared to see persons in color, form and feature not unlike ourselves. For all purposes in the States, this group might have been any group of

Dr. Wesley is a professor of history at Howard University and is now on leave as Guggenheim Fellow for social research on slavery in the West Indies. He is at present working in London.

so-called "Colored Persons." When they are costumed or uncostumed as one observer phrased it, there are resemblances to the native pictures with which we are accustomed.

Again, contrary to the point of view of the average man, they are a cultured group. All of them are youthful and seem ambitious to continue in training so as to improve their talents. The leader of the singers, Mr. R. T. Caluza, is an interesting speaker as well as a musical director. He has arranged

all of the songs which are sung by the group, composing the accompaniments as well as the parts. And yet, he admits that he has had no musical training and what he has accomplished with the Zulu music has been quite original, for he has had no previous experiences upon which he might build. He still talks, however, of a musical education for himself so that he might be able to reveal to the world the unknown riches of Zulu music. He insisted, during a speech which he gave at one of his concerts that the singers are not "professionals" but, said he, "we only use our natural gifts." He says that he has collected over one hundred songs, some of which have come down from ancient days.

The programs of these singers are

varied ones. The usual type is a developmental program which demonstrates the rise of Zulu music from the early periods to the present. Beginning with the barbaric monotone, the program develops into the more complete harmony of modern times. Many of their songs are sung in costume. This is especially true of the war-like songs, where clad in their tiger skins they make a fine martial appearance.

The Zulus have been a war-like race and at times almost unconquerable. Professor Ferguson, of the Department of History at Harvard University, has compared the Zulus with the Spartans. His study of this comparison appears in one of the volumes of the Harvard *Africana*. The Zulus fought the Boers and the English, and contested with

sor of Dingan, developed a standing army of well drilled troops. He defeated the English again and again, taking many of them prisoners and putting to death many others. He himself was at length captured by the English under Lord Chelmsford, and the Zulus were brought permanently under British rule. Their revolts continued, however, and the Zulu wars have been the source of the loss of men and wealth on the part of the British Empire. The Indian wars and massacres in American History are mere skirmishes in comparison with these Zulu combats.

A people with a war-like background such as this, cannot do otherwise than express their emotion in song. The note of defiance is frequent in their singing. There is the warrior pose and

ward, suiting each movement to the mood of the music. Sometimes, one of them would step forward to lead the song, and the rest would join in at intervals, just as in the Negro-American music. Moreover, the verses seem to go on and on, without end, the singers stopping at will. We are often told that African music has a preference for rhythm over melody. In the singing of the Zulus, no such preference is shown. Rhythm and melody go together, and song and dance as well seem to be in union.

The piano accompaniment played by Mr. Caluza gives a fitting background to all of their singing. One of these songs reminded the American part of the audience of the old cake-walk which has been well known in the South. The



them every step of the way into Zulu land. At times, they were able by their valor to prevent both Boer and English settlements on their land. One of their kings, Chaka, who ruled during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and who was known as the "Negro Napoleon," was the founder of the greatness of the modern Zulu kingdom. With the aid of subordinate chiefs, he conquered what is now Natal and Zululand, a part of Modern Transvaal, the Orange Free State and Amatongaland as far as Delagoa Bay. His son, Dingan, was more friendly with the English but continued his hostility to the Boers. Panda, the succes-

the thrust of the spear, the shout of battle and the song of victory. There seem to be few sorrow-songs in the music of the Zulus. There are funeral songs, but even in these, there are the majestic strains without the plaintive minor so well known in our American music.

The uninitiated expects also to hear monotony to an unbearable degree. Instead of this, he listens to most beautiful harmony in the usual four parts. Every song is accompanied by motions of the hands, the body and the feet. The arms wave, the hands are struck together and the feet move in unison. The group sways or moves to the right and to the left, now forward now back-

singers in couples, one man with one woman, paraded up and down with more or less ludicrous and yet dignified bearing. Another of these song and dance arrangements, the "Bel Air," it is called, is just like a well-known dance of the West Indies. There are all sorts of kinship relations which come to one who listens and sees, for one must see as well as hear this music. This will be one of the losses which will be only too apparent in the reproduction of the records. The physical movements cannot be recorded and reproduced with the music, for truly they are parts of the singing.

The Zulus, just as other primitive

peoples, have given personalities to nature and natural phenomena. Their songs have followed this characteristic. For example, there is one song about Togola, the personality who lives in the water. He is a great friend of little boys and women. The song describes his visit to a banquet and his hasty departure to the waters. There is great joy and then laughter as Togola comes and goes from the banquet. Each song begins with a few strains on the piano, then the singers begin their movements, and before the singing the little group has begun to move in union with the music. The songs are joyous and full of life and movement. They are singing, dancing, playing games, placating nature, talking with animals as friends. There was one indication of sorrow, and this was in a wedding scene, in

which the singers drew out their handkerchiefs and began to weep, then suddenly they turned about and began the joyous shout again. One of this group, in a talk after the concert said that there was an old Zulu saying which expressed the Zulu attitude toward life. It was "the child that will not cry out, dies in the cradle." The Zulus seem to believe this and their singing manifests it. They would follow a joyous, vigorous life, and there is no place in it for the weakling.

As one listened to this singing, he could not prevent himself from thinking of the kinship between the various darker racial groups, which is quite apparent to the layman even, who hears several of these groups in their singing. Apparently, the folk-songs of the Negro in America have many similar idioms

in Africa, even Zulu Africa. Whether there are actual African song survivals in America only a serious investigation can reveal. It is undoubtedly true that the Spirituals are the results of the experiences of the race in America, but there is a large list of songs which run the gamut of the emotions and it may well be that these have a closer relation to Africa. However this may be, in the singing, the movements and the rhythm of the Zulu singers, there is the elementary background of emotional life which one may parallel in parts of America and in the West Indies. A realization of this linkage may lead to the conclusion that the darker races may yet be drawn nearer than we of the present day may seem to think.

OUR READERS SAY

I NOTICED the last issue where someone had decided that you were a little too outspoken. They said that you in speaking of conditions in America had said that it was a hell of a place, or words to that effect. Now I hope for my sake and the sake of 12 millions of Negroes that just such talks that you have made in the past you will continue to make and more of them.

J. THOMAS HILL,
Oklahoma.

JUST a line to let you know that even THE CRISIS paper gets over here sometimes. I by chance got one the other day and I keep it as if it were \$50,000 in gold, for out here we seldom see a paper or any reading matter of the race. There are about 15 or 17 American Negroes here in Shanghai and holding fair jobs.

I am from New Haven, Conn. I have been in China now for 3 years and expect two more years here working in one of the high-class dance halls in the city with Mr. Teddy Weatherford of Chicago, Illinois.

A. E. BALDWIN,
Shanghai, China.

THE CRISIS comes regularly on the 27th of each month. I really cannot say what its valuable contents mean to me. I feel sure that it is a magazine that I will read monthly until my death. Your article entitled "Patient Asses" interested me very much, and I have read it many times. The last sentence in this masterpiece

prompts me to ask you the following questions: What can be done concerning the Pan-African movement? What are the aims of that organization?

It was my desire to stay in America longer to enlarge my training but my aged mother needs my attention at present. I still entertain the hope of going to a higher school of learning some day. I am not a missionary, but hope to contribute what I can to this needy section.

The condition of the land is bad. Hut tax is unnecessarily high. The consequence being that the native is suffering very much. The black police are a disgrace to the race. They are the instruments used to inflict cruel beatings on the natives. They often infringe on the honor of the native girls, and in many instances, commit murder. Their bosses, the white sheriffs, seem to enjoy all that is taking place. They often defend these acts by pointing to the so-called laziness of the African native.

Angola, West Africa.

I AM a man of nearly 80. My eyes are failing and I am unable to read as I would like to do, so I must stop my renewals to papers. But I wish to say if I were younger I would renew and I hope you will keep up the fight for every right that belongs to any citizen of the United States, for your race, until you get them. I long to see the day when color line and "Jim Crow" business is eliminated from the

United States and every man's rights are respected, regardless of race or color. So success for you and the reform for which you are laboring is my prayer.

W. T. OUTLAND,
Indiana.

QUITE sometime ago I read extracts from a purported address by you in Boston concerning the origin of the so-called "Puritans" of New England. Many years ago I read Charles Sumner's dissertation on the Cavalier. Both you and he emphasized the lowly origin of the subjects of your attack.

The apparent purpose in each case was to clarify the record as to the claims made by the men and women who have extolled the virtues of Puritan and Cavalier.

Lowly origin is not always a handicap in an effort to make worthwhile contributions to mankind. In this connection I was thinking of the humble, even foul, origin of the forebears of Christ. In spite of his antecedents, who has taught a finer social philosophy than He?

Some of the descendants of the Puritans believed in the philosophy of Christ and translated their belief into life and service. Do you not remember them? I do, and I will always be grateful to them for what they did and for what they gave.

You will say, the Puritans of New England fastened our present economic system upon us. I grant it, but many

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of them have sought with a sacrificial spirit to bring social justice to the world. We must not forget them. We must extol their virtues while we condemn their brothers who saw the light and failed to follow it.

And, now, all of us must watch and wait while Gandhi from his prison cell in India directs the Round Table Conference in London. The future of mankind is being decided there. The humble and oppressed are finding voice and courage. And after India, Africa. May we not hope?

H. J. PINKETT,
Nebraska.

I HAVE read in THE CRISIS of August 1930 a letter of Rudolf Goldscheid referring to Dr. Nussbaum. I know and honor Dr. Anna Nussbaum personally and know how she longs to finish the work "Evolution of the Afro-Americans". As president of the Austrian Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, which League has always been struggling against the prejudices regarding races, I allow myself to propose to your society to help her in some way or other, as her endeavors are completely along the tendencies of your proper society, and especially, as her work is really well known in Europe and are all dealing with the question of the colored races.

May I add that all guests of the colored races, that you will recommend to me, will be heartily welcomed to my house whenever they stay in Vienna.

Asking you kindly to note, that the Austrian Women's League for Peace and Freedom is entirely on the side of the society for the Advancement of colored races, believe me, dear Sir, to be

DR. YELLA LIEBL,
Austria.

I TAKE note of the article that appears in the November Crisis with reference to the former protest of the colored Boy Scouts of Philadelphia made over a year ago.

I am in hearty accord of the stand taken by the committee and Scout Master representing all of the colored scouts in Philadelphia, as I get the impression that all of the organizations were in accord with the above mentioned protest. I regret very much, however, that the protest was necessary.

I have been connected with the Boy Scout movement almost twenty years, since May, 1911, when I received my first certificate of commission.

In this Mid-West, especially in this district, the Scout Officials have been very fair with a very few exceptions. Of course, we find exceptions in instances where a large number of white

men in the local organizations are prejudiced largely due to ignorance of the ability and accomplishments of the Negro race.

They are mis-informed along this line through the public press and do not read the Negro papers and magazines that give them knowledge of the progress of the race.

We use the same Headquarters, the same Camp, and participate in the Annual Jamboree and perform as the white boys do. This takes in the whole area, that is, a portion of five states are included where two thousand boys or more make up the performance.

Of course, we meet with some timidity on the part of some of the white members of the Board. They want our boys to sing, dance and clown. We do not permit them to do this.

I appreciate very much the stand that you are taking in this magazine for championing the cause of the race of ours. May God bless you and may your life be long and your influence ever live for our race which has suffered and is now suffering.

JOHN B. BONES,
President, Midwest District of
Boy Scouts of America,
St. Joseph, Mo., Area

FRANK RICHARDSON, a Negro who lives in Morton, Pa., is in need of sympathetic and authoritative advice. I don't suppose Richardson is thirty yet. He is married and has several children. He barely ekes a living through furniture and miscellaneous repair work. He has a keen, clear, theoretical mind, which is at the same time unpractical in the petty but important task of keeping the wolf in abeyance. When still a boy, some white man, perceiving his genius, sent him to Borden-town Military Academy (I don't know why the man thought a military academy was a good place to train a genius!), and there Richardson became known as the "Black Edison".

Richardson has great mechanical aptitude, and is constantly inventing little—and occasionally important—mechanical devices. The fixtures he has arranged in his house are evidence of his decided ability along this line.

Richardson claims (and his general probity impels me to believe) that he is the inventor of the "stop-light" arrangement on autos: (you press down the brake and automatically the "stop-light" lights). He was seduced by one of the fraudulent patent companies whose advertisements you have doubtless seen in cheap magazines. This company is now in possession of his drawing, and has long since obtained the patent for it. Richardson has written several letters, but has got no replies. His innate unaggressiveness,

and his confused knowledge and disregard of the routine procedures to obtain patents, has led him to drop the matter. He is quite cheerful about it, bearing no particular malice whatever.

He is always working on and creating something, whether a simple toy or a complicated machine. At the present time he has another device which he wants to get patented. I have warned him not to send it to another private company, but I fear he thinks I am unduly suspicious of the companies; their promises are so captivating.

I am writing this in the hope that the N. A. A. C. P. may be able to give Richardson some advice. There is no one I know of who could competently and sympathetically give him the legal information and help he needs. Few people understand him, classifying him as indolent, as ability to keep the pot boiling is not his greatest asset. I feel that the advancement of colored people can, in addition to a social revolution, be achieved in a smaller way through the advancement of its individuals. This potential "Black Edison" is one that merely needs to be set on the right road, and he will advance himself.

RALPH PRESTON,
Pennsylvania.

Dear Reader:

I see that Dr. Du Bois is having to endure a share of the opprobrium which greets anyone who suggests in any way that the aureole surrounding the heads of our Puritan ancestors may be caused by viewing them through the dust of the past.

I heartily approve of Dr. Du Bois' practice of approaching problems by the clear light of the "historical" or scientific method rather than through the haze of sentimentality. And it happens that the facts he unearthed are facts. The Puritans not only enslaved Negroes; they sold Indians taken as prisoners in King Philip's War as slaves to the West Indies, and took a fiendish delight in exterminating as many of the others as possible. They also persecuted the Quakers and others of their own colony who did not agree with them in religion. They executed innocent people as witches, banished Roger Williams for holding a tolerant viewpoint, and only stopped their persecutions of the Quakers when ordered to do so by the King. As a minor virtue, they boast of selling corn to the Indians at \$4.50 a bushel while they were able to purchase it at forty cents.

When we find facts conflicting with our ideas, it is best to change the ideas, as we cannot change the facts.

MABEL S. LEWIS,
South Dakota.

N. A. A. C. P. Branch Activities

By ROBERT W. BAGNALL

ANNUAL MEETING

THE Nominating Committee for members of the National Board of Directors of the N. A. A. C. P. reports the following nominees for terms expiring December 31, 1933:

George W. Crawford, New Haven
Clarence Darrow, Chicago
H. Claude Hudson, Los Angeles
Joseph Prince Loud, Boston
George W. Lucas, New Orleans
Carl Murphy, Baltimore
Ella Rush Murray, Catskill, New York

Dr. William Allan Neilson, Northampton, Massachusetts
F. B. Ransom, Indianapolis
Arthur B. Spingarn, New York
Charles H. Studin, New York
Dr. G. R. Waller, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Ten of the nominations are for reelection. The new members of the Board are Dr. William Allan Neilson, President of Smith College and one of the outstanding educators of the United States, and Carl Murphy, editor of the Baltimore *Afro-American*, one of the leading Negro weeklies.

The Nominating Committee is composed of:

Isadore Martin, Chairman
Dr. John Haynes Holmes
Judge James A. Cobb

These members of the Board will be voted upon at the annual meeting of the Association which will be held at the National Offices, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on the afternoon of Monday, January 5th, 1931, at 2:30 p. m. In addition to election of officers there will be read on that occasion the annual reports of the Acting Secretary and other officials.

The annual mass meeting of the Association will be held, as usual, in New York City on the afternoon of Sunday, January 4th. The speakers and place will be announced later in the public press.

THE SPINGARN MEDAL

THE Committee on Award of the Spingarn Medal meets this month in the N. A. A. C. P. National Office, 69 Fifth Avenue, to designate the recipient for 1930. Send in your nomination early. It should state the achievement or the career on the basis of which the nomination is made and should be accompanied by a brief biography of the nominee. Send this matter to Spingarn Award Committee, care N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

This page is for the activities of the Branch and its workers. Send matters to Robert W. Bagnall, Director of Branches, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

garn Award Committee, care N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Philadelphia Society Circus

The Philadelphia Branch through its Woman's Auxiliary has given a Society Circus which drew a large crowd and was a fine success. Mr. Herbert E. Millen is President of the Branch and Mrs. Helen S. Bayton is Chairman of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Washington Tries Novel Membership Plan

The District of Columbia Branch is one of our large Branches which has a woman President. This Branch is trying out a novel plan of securing a certain quota of members each month through work done in the churches and various organizations. Its President, Miss Emma F. G. Merritt, is enthusiastic over the possibilities of this plan.

Branch Campaigns

In Camden, N. J., William Pickens, Field Secretary of the Association, is

conducting a Contest-Campaign for the Branch. Churches, clubs, and other organizations are giving full assistance. Great interest was aroused in Camden as a result of the Branch's protest against police brutality. The campaign is to conclude with a mammoth mass meeting, with Congressman Oscar DePriest as speaker.

Springfield, Mass., which has four thousand colored people, after raising three thousand dollars for the entertainment of the Annual Conference of which \$2,250.00 was raised among colored people, has just concluded a brief supplementary campaign under the direction of Mr. Bagnall, adding \$300.00 more. Mrs. Jeanne C. Gordon is President of the Branch. The Captains in the campaign were Mesdames Columbia Johnson, Blanche Scott, Rose Ayres, Mary T. Jones and Mr. Julius Lowe.

The prize winners in the Jersey City, N. J., Contest-Campaign, just ended, were Miss Mary Douglas, first prize; Mrs. Geneva A. Dogan, second prize; Mrs. Phyllis Oliver, third prize.

Chicago is conducting a campaign for 5,000 members, under the direction of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, Regional Secretary of the Association. Five hundred workers are making a house to house canvass. The Secretary of the Chicago Branch writes:

"We are in our drive and Mrs. Daisy Lampkin is simply one great resourceful human bundle of energy and courage."

Jamaica, L. I., Concludes Successful Year

The Jamaica, L. I., Branch which has held a record for several years as one of the banner Branches of the entire Association, recently held its annual meeting, at which time it was reported that the Membership Committee of the Branch, headed by Mrs. Romeo L. Dougherty, had brought in during the year \$1,179.16. At the meeting the Branch re-elected its splendid officers, Dr. Charles M. Reid, President; Mr. G. M. Murray, Vice President; Mr. Frank M. Turner, Secretary; Mr. Charles E. Stovall, Treasurer.

Life Memberships Secured

Mr. C. E. Dickinson, President of the Columbus Branch, reports that he has secured one Life Membership and has three other prospects awaiting the visit of Mr. Walter White.

Mr. John P. Drew of Darby, Pa., visited the National Office recently and (Will you please turn to page 34)



Youngest member of the Springfield, Mass. Branch

Postscript

by W. E. D. Dubois

THE FOOTRACE

ONE cannot help but come back continually to that extraordinary dictum of President Hoover in Carolina the other day: in the American social system, we strive to give the runners an even start and the one who comes out ahead shows "the most conscientious training, the greatest ability, the strongest character," while Socialism and Communism compel all the runners to end the race equally, and Despotism picks those who run and those who win.

The only thing that an American Negro could conclude from this would be that he was the unfortunate subject of a white despotism. To say that a Negro in America gets or is permitted to have an even start in housing, in health surroundings, in education, in work and wage, before the courts and in general social contact and civic freedom, is to talk nonsense. And in addition to this and with every handicap, if he does excell, he stands an excellent chance to be cheated of the prize or "benched" at the Great Game.

BLEASE

IT is a matter of profound congratulations that death and politics are together helping to emancipate the Negro in America. Two dangerous demagogues, Tillman and Vardaman, are dead. They did in their day untold damage to the American Negro. Two other blatherskites, Heflin and Blease, have been retired, at least temporarily, from the political power which they stole from the suppressed Southern Negro vote. It is to be devoutly hoped that they will never reappear in public life. Of course, this will not be the end of their species. So long as race hatred blossoms in the South to such an extent that men can get political power by advocating lynching and caste for Negroes, just so long there will be a large supply of scoundrels who will bid for public position on this platform. The roots which have produced this terrible crop of Southern Negro-hating demagogues still run deep.

January, 1931

CRIMINALS

ONE of the most distressing things is the attitude of the better class of Negroes toward those unfortunate colored people who are incarcerated in jails or accused of crime. The attitude of the Negro church and social uplift agencies is apparently that the Negro who is arrested is guilty of crime and deserving of no sympathy from his more fortunate fellows. The truth is quite different. Our jails are full of Negroes innocent of all intentional wrong-doing. We know perfectly well how often they are the victims of police discrimination and judicial unfairness, and that their poverty and ignorance makes them the scapegoats of our present criminal law. All agencies for social uplift ought, therefore, to make extraordinary effort to save these unfortunates from further debauchery when once they are in the hands of the law.

MAGNIFICENT INDIA

THE lesson which India is today giving the world and particularly the world of colored peoples, is nothing less than magnificent. First, there is Gandhi, with his passive resistance, an apostle of Peace, who means Peace; and puts to shame the professional pacifist, who means less than nothing. Then, there is Tagore, the great poet, who gave up the bribe of an English knighthood, and lives on high in the midst of a sordid and discriminating world. Finally, there is the splendor of India in London. Prince and Untouchable, Muslim and Hindu, all standing shoulder to shoulder, when England counted upon disunion and mutual jealousies and hatreds to perpetuate her tyranny in India. That was a splendid speech of Mr. Ambedkar. He said when the British came to India 150 years ago, "We were in a loathsome condition. We could not draw water at the village wells; we could not enter a temple; we could not serve on the police force; we could not serve in the army." And what happened, he said. Nothing. We are just as badly off now as we were before the English came. It was precisely what the English planned. From no country which

they dominate do they propose to remove the internal friction which helps to keep it in subjection. Magnificent India, to reveal to the world the inner rottenness of European imperialism. Such a country not only deserves to be free, it will be free.

SOCIAL RESEARCH

WE note with interest that the New School for Social Research which enters its fine building in New York this winter, with an excellent corps of instructors and advisory committee, is at least in one respect thoroughly American. It offers 52 courses in social science, and of these, so far as we can judge from the announcement, not a single one treats or even touches the problem of the Negro in America. And yet, there hasn't been in the last one hundred years a single student of society from any part of the world who viewing America did not say that this race problem was one of the greatest problems which the country faced. Why is it then, that a school of social research which prides itself on the adjective "new", should follow this old prejudice of American universities, even more thoroughly than many older schools? Does it wish to believe that the problem of democracy for colored folk is identical with the problem of democracy for whites? Is the whole relation of the white and darker worlds implicit in courses on "Independent Women", "American Capitalism", "Psychoanalysis" and "Modern Biology"?

However, we should take courage, because among the matters not neglected are "Dancing", the "Design workshop", the "Moving Picture", and "After disillusion, What?"

THE BRITISH EMPIRE

ONE can depend upon the cable service from London, dominated by England and white America, to make quite an ordinary and relatively unimportant bit of news of the action of the Imperial Conference. Yet the Imperial Conference broke the British Empire into six independent countries, over which there presides a King without a shred of real power. Each coun-

try has its own Parliament, its own Prime Minister; and each country now will appoint its own Governor-General. Each country can at any time secede from the union of British commonwealths.

There are three tremendous powers reserved to one of the partners, that is, to England. England still owns, dominates and rules with absolute power all of the vast British colonies in Asia, Africa and America. Their exploitation will continue to be a source of wealth and power which will make England *Primus inter Pares* until these colonies follow India and assert their independence. Secondly, England is still the source of social power,—of titles of nobility, of medals and distinctions, of world-wide pageantry; the tremendous importance of this from all points of view must not be discounted by those who know the world. Finally England rules the British navy, even though she starves to maintain it.

THE PROFIT IN COLONIES

THE Gold Coast *Independent*, a colored weekly published in British West Africa, gives some illuminating figures concerning the profits on native produce. Cocoa on the Gold Coast sells for \$94 a ton. One pound of manufactured chocolate of average quality sells for \$2,200 a ton. If we add to the cost of the raw cocoa the charge for packing, freight and duty, still the cost is only \$110 a ton. To this we must add the fact that a ton of cocoa will not make quite a ton of chocolate, but even allowing for this it does not seem possible that the cocoa required for a ton of chocolate and the expenses of manufacture could be over \$500, making an enormous profit for the manufacturers.

DOMFRONT

ELEVEN years ago we had here 2800 American soldiers who stayed with us for two months. I acted as an interpreter to the Negro officers and knew many of them and had the honor of being introduced to Dr. Du Bois on his visit to Domfront; I wrote the testimonial about their good conduct mentioned in your issue of May, 1919.

Many officers and soldiers asked me then to write a book in English and French about the historical city of Domfront. This book has just been published and I shall be glad to forward a copy of it if you will kindly send me your present address—as it may have changed.

I am sure many of those good friends will remember me and some of them will be glad to have that souvenir of

Domfront.

Hoping you will favor me with an answer, I am, dear Sir,
T. ROUGEYRON.

WHITE PLAINS

THE case at White Plains has evidently got under the skin of the Y. M. C. A. The situation, as stated in a news letter of the National Council, was as follows:

Dr. Errold D. Collymore and Dr. Arthur M. Williams, members of the Committee of Management of the Colored Branch of the White Plains Y. M. C. A., after a fruitless search over a period of nearly three years for decent homes in which to live, purchased and established residence in homes that were located in white communities. When this fact became known there was an immediate protest on the part of real estate authorities and property owners' associations, and finally every conceivable threat was made to intimidate Doctors Collymore and Williams into giving up their homes, culminating in the burning of a cross on Dr. Collymore's lawn. The Ministers' Association of the city and one of the leading newspapers protested vigorously against the methods that were being used. The Young Men's Christian Association did not join with the Ministers' Union or the Press in these protests, but sought to influence Doctors Collymore and Williams to sell their homes. Both gentlemen respectfully but firmly refused to do this. It happened that Samuel R. Morsell, secretary of the Colored Branch, had been rooming with Dr. Collymore since the time that he took up his duties as secretary, seven months before, and when Dr. Collymore moved into his new home Mr. Morsell moved with him. Failing in their efforts to get Dr. Collymore and Dr. Williams to sell, the officials of the Central Y. M. C. A. endeavored to enlist the services of Mr. Morsell in seeing what he could do to influence Dr. Collymore and Dr. Williams to sell. Mr. Morsell made known to the officials of the organization that he did not feel that it was any part of his duty as a secretary of the Branch to suggest to members of his Committee of Management how they should run their private business affairs. After several weeks of personal and group conferences, Doctors Collymore and Williams were dismissed from the Committee of Management, and finally Mr. Morsell was notified that his services would not be needed after September 15th. This was done without knowledge or consent of his Committee of Management.

Here was a situation which called for some action and the action taken by the National Council of Y. M. C. A.'s at its annual October meeting in Chicago, consisted of a series of Resolutions.

We confess that the Resolutions do not impress us particularly. The National Council says that it cannot interfere with the management of local

associations, or deal directly with the White Plains Association, but that it can make plain the attitude of the brotherhood as a whole. We put down, therefore, in parallel columns, what the Council said and what we think it should have said:

What the Council Said

In dealing with any community incident involving sharp difference of opinion on race relations, those charged with the administration of Association affairs should take every precaution properly to protect the rights of individuals in their personal opinions and actions.

What the Council Should Have Said

At White Plains, New York, the method used in settling an acute racial difference of opinion was neither fair in law nor consistent to our Christian principles. It was unjust to dismiss Dr. Collymore and Dr. Williams from the Committee of Management because they had bought decent homes. It was unjust and un-Christian not to consult the Committee of Management concerning the dismissal of Secretary Morsell. It was unjust and un-Christian to dismiss Mr. Morsell because he roomed with Dr. Collymore.

Intense race feeling usually grows out of community neglect and indifference to fundamental social and economic problems. Experience would seem to indicate that the best method of allaying race prejudice and preventing acute outbreaks of race conflict is to meet concrete needs constructively.

Intense race feeling grows out of community neglect and indifference to fundamental, social and economic problems. This is particularly shown in White Plains. It is exceedingly difficult for colored people to secure decent homes in that town. It is practically impossible to rent such homes, and when they seek to buy, very naturally all of the better class homes are in communities hitherto white. If the colored buyers pay the price asked and conduct themselves as decent, law-abiding American citizens, it is outrageous that they should be penalized and ostracized, and treated with loss of their livelihood.

We have no power or direct authority over the Y.M.C.A. at White Plains, but we sincerely advise them that if they are going to continue to call their Association Christian that they should take up this matter of decent housing for colored people.

The Index and Title Page of Volume 37 of THE CRISIS will be mailed to those who wish in January.

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West Virginia

(Continued from page 11)

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N. A. A. C. P.

(Continued from page 28)

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